

The Heritage Gazette of the Trent Valley

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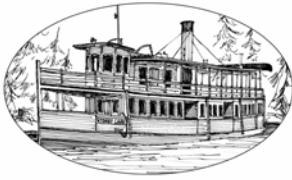
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*Front cover illustration: Stoney Lake, 1871, painting by the Rev V. Clementi (Peterborough Historical Society)
Thanks to Mary and Doug Lavery for the photography and assistance.*



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THE EDITOR'S DESK

It is instructive to see how the Heritage Gazette has changed over time. The cover picture has now been in colour for six straight issues; only one earlier was in colour. John Marsh was the great advocate for the colour cover, and it has been a hit. For over a decade we have been bringing fresh stories from the archives and from our writers. We are now in our eighth year as a quarterly on an 8 ½ x 11 format, and the size of each issue has expanded from usually 32 pages to 44 pages.

More recent issues have had more photographs and illustrations. This reflects the great advances in digital photography. We seek ways to highlight our holdings. We are getting new collections all the time and some are positively exciting. We will be featuring some of these in upcoming issues of the Gazette, and in our new publications.

Through it all we have kept the standard features. Our Queries column, usually close to the centre, remains primarily tied to family research and we try to have interesting obituaries and biographies in the near vicinity. In each issue, we try to have some interesting lists of names. Our "News, Views and Reviews" has been our newsletter, doubling as a place to record significant events at the Trent Valley Archives, about Peterborough, and about archives and heritage organizations. With 2007 we have added Basia Baklinski's Conservation Corner. We have always tried to have a lead-off story that reflects solid research in family history and good use of historical and archival sources.

In recent issues we have had major themes covering about half the issue. The International Plowing Match issue in August was followed by the Rosemere Manor special in November and the Peterborough Construction issue in February. As well the magazine has small clumps of articles that are interconnected. Sometimes the articles are woven together with changing threads.

The current issue has four major themes: entertainment, Vimy Ridge, emigrant children, and Trent Valley Archives.

The entertainment theme is led off by Dave Barry's fascinating discussion of the Peterborough influence on Gene Kelly, one of Hollywood's all-time favourite actors. Articles on Vincent

Clementi and Buffalo Bill were interspersed with items from the 1889 newspaper. Diane Robnik put together the section on the Old Boys' Weeks, those frequent opportunities for people who had moved away to return to their childhood homes. In addition to accounts of their activities in 1903 and 1905 she assembled lists of attendees in 1905 and 1908. To this we added excerpts from the 1929 programme. The theme of entertainment wove through reports on activities of the Trent Valley Archives. As well, we found a fascinating 1891 poem by Simon the Poet which boosts Peterborough and some of its citizens: James Stevenson, J. R. Stratton and G. I. Roszel. However, to us the theme of recreation in the Kawarthas includes cottage life. We celebrated the life of Alma Dorfman, one of our great volunteers who recently and sadly passed away with memories of Wansata Inn, which was operated by her parents for many years.

The Vimy Ridge section was inspired by the recent ceremonies celebrating the 90th anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge. David Edgerton gathered a list of people with Peterborough connections who died at Vimy Ridge. We included one of our 500 photos from the Western Front, and discussed local connections of Walter Allward, the designer of the famed Vimy Ridge memorial. We also celebrated a couple of survivors, Lloyd Clemett, who recently died aged 107, and Albert Roscoe, a child emigrant. Gina Martin wrote the Clemett article and Ivy Sucee provided the details for the Roscoe life. These provided our links to the third theme. We had a description of the razing of Hazelbrae, the Peterborough distribution centre for Dr Barnardo's. We had the newspaper story with the commentary by E. H. D. Hall, who had vivid memories of the home, and other reflections. To this we added an article on Hazelbrae, and the list of child emigrants who were passengers on the S. S. Vancouver in 1893.

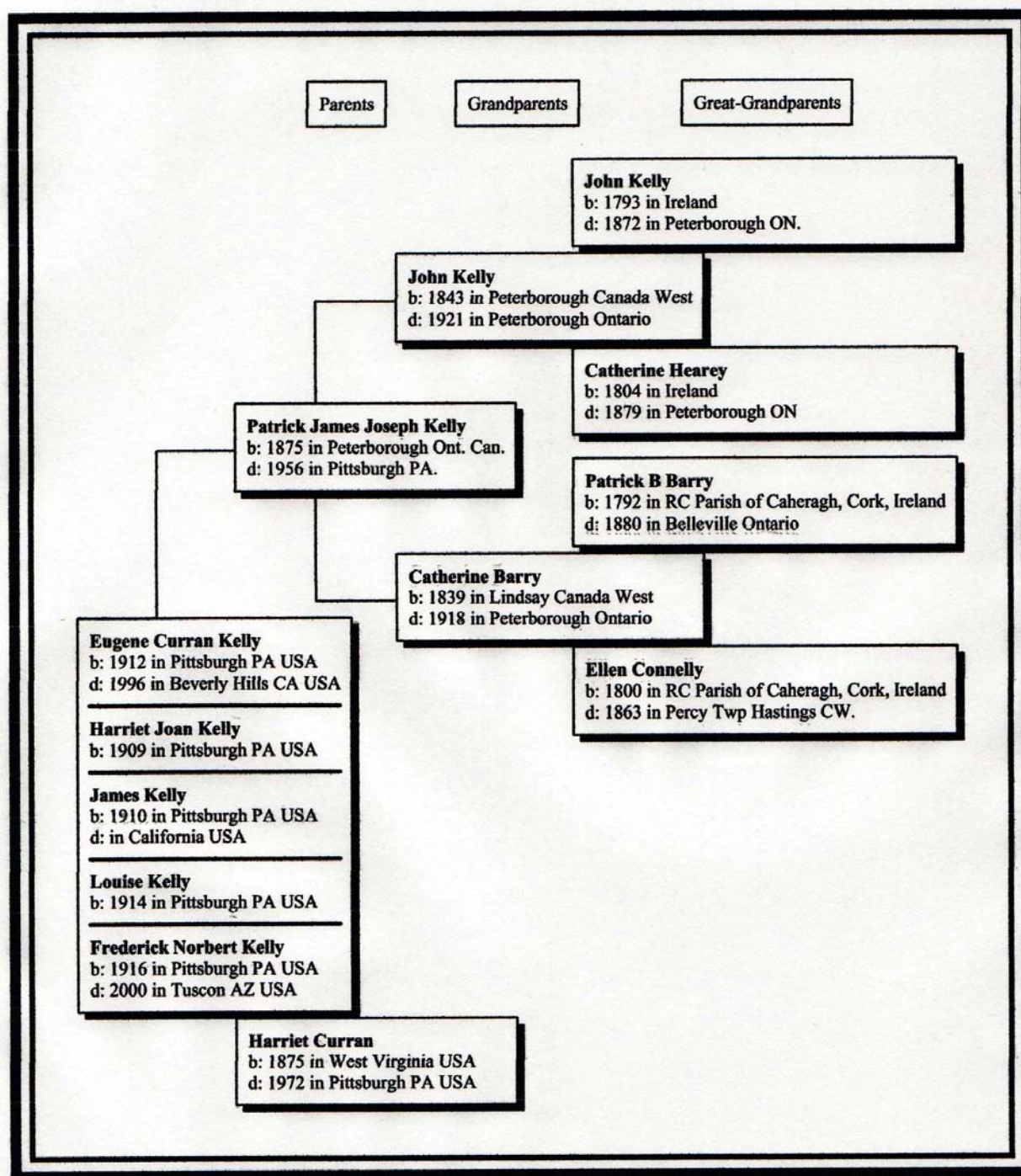
The Trent Valley Archives has been an active place and we captured life there with a report on the Open House in April, preliminary plans for expansion, and our upcoming events.

We hope you enjoy this very informative and diverse issue. Thanks to all those people who make each issue possible. Contributions from our members are always welcome.

Elwood Jones

Gene and Fred Kelly: Their Peterborough Heritage.

Dave Barry, Peterborough ON



The **Gene and Fred Kelly** connection to Peterborough originates with their Canadian born father, **James Patrick Joseph Kelly**, who was born and raised in Peterborough. However, their Peterborough connections extend considerably beyond that, to their grandparents; John² Kelly and his wife Catherine Barry and even to their great-grandparents, John Kelly his wife Catherine Heary and Patrick¹ Barry and his wife Ellen Connolly. These later two families both emigrated from Ireland to the Peterborough area in the early to mid 1830s.

So this is a brief history of those two venerable old families and their descendants, who were among the earliest settlers to the Peterborough area and who undoubtedly shaped, at least to some extent, the lives of Gene and Fred Kelly.

The Kelly History (1st Generation)

John¹ Kelly; born 1793 and his young wife Catherine Heary born 1804 emigrated from Ireland¹ directly to North Monaghan Township (Peterborough) in 1832 with their only child, Mary, born a few years earlier in 1830. Probably much like his contemporaries, his intentions would have been to escape the poverty and oppression in his native Ireland, in hope of acquiring steady employment and property (probably for the first time in his life) and developing a better life in Canada. They came directly to North Monaghan Township, where they are first listed in the 1833 Peterborough Directory. However, it is unlikely that John had any other family in the area when he arrived, as the existing Irish settlers were predominantly from the 1825 Peter Robinson mission, which did not include any Kelly families.²



John¹ Kelly, a Blacksmith by trade, settled his family in an area of the village of Peterborough in what was then known as "Irish Town." This area was loosely defined as the area south of Charlotte Street to Sherbrooke Street and west to Reid Street. Although John and his wife Catherine were probably illiterate, as indicated by the use of an "X" on early legal documents, it appears they prospered in Peterborough, working hard, with John successfully applying his trade.

In 1842 he obtained a land grant for Town Lot-14 along the south side of Sherbrooke Street where he later built a home near Reid Street. In time he purchased other properties along the North side of Sherbrooke Street, probably by then totaling about two acres, now along both sides of Sherbrooke Street.

During this period, they had five Canadian born children as follows; **Ellen** born 1836, **Michael** born 1839,

Patrick born 1841, **John** born 1843 and **Eliza** born 1849. In 1869 at age seventy-six, he sold and bequeathed a quantity of his land holdings in old Irish Town to his son John² Kelly. These transactions included, Lot-14 which consisted of one-half an acre on the north side of Sherbrooke Street, broken Lots 16 and 17 south of Sherbrooke Street and west of Reid Street and Lot-16 and broken Lot-17, north of Dalhousie Street and West of Reid Street. Although the 1871 Census still lists John¹ Kelly as a Blacksmith at age seventy-eight, he sadly, passed away soon after, on May 18, 1872. Although Saint Peter's Church records document his funeral on this date no actual burial record at Saint Peter's cemetery has been found. His wife Catherine Heary died seven years later, on December 2, 1879 at age-seventy-five, and again although the Ontario Vital Statistics confirm this date, no actual burial record at Saint Peter's cemetery has been found for her either.

Their oldest and only Irish born child **Mary** who married a Thomas Donovan died at her home at the corner of Simcoe and Stewart Street at age fifty-two, on May 38, 1881 a mere eighteen months after her mother Catherine Heary died. They had three sons, Thomas born 1860, William born 1862 and James born 1865.

Ellen married a John Tangney and lived at 305 McDonnell Street, until her death on March 28, 1912. They had six children, Hannah born 1857³, Michael E⁴, born 1856, Elizabeth born 1857, Patrick born 1863, Catherine born 1864 and John born 1869.

The youngest child, **Eliza**, married a Daniel Cushing in about 1869 and had five children; John born 1870, Daniel born 1872, Mary E, born 1874, William born 1876 and Robert born 1879. Eliza at age thirty-two and just six months after her mother's death died tragically, when she was found dead at the foot of the stairs by her oldest son John, in their Weller Street home, early in the morning of June 24, 1880. She had apparently arisen in the night to rekindle the fire and fell down the stairs, dying of a fractured neck. It is interesting to note that their Weller Street home was described in her obituary as near the Mr. George Cox's residence. It is also noteworthy that Saint Peter's Cemetery property was purchased from the Cushing family in 1869.

The 1861 Census lists their son **Michael** (age-20) and John² Kelly (age-18) living at home but the middle brother **Patrick** who would have been nineteen is not listed. Ten years later in 1871 neither Michael nor Patrick is listed, so their whereabouts and their descendants remain unknown.

The Barry History (1st Generation)

Patrick¹ Barry; married Ellen Connolly on March 2, 1824 in the Hamlet of Dromore, in South-West Cork, near the sea side town of Bantry. They had six Irish born children; **Mary, Elizabeth, Patrick, William, Ellen** and **John**. They appear to have been quite unsettled during those early years in Ireland, following their marriage, moving from townland to townland throughout the Parish of Caheragh and possibly even ending up in the Town of Bantry where their last Irish born child John is thought have been born in 1832, just prior to their departure for

¹ The O Kellys were a major tribe in South Roscommon from earliest recorded history. Their territory, Ui Maine, corresponded roughly to the present diocese of Clonfert. (Patrick Lavin; genealogist/historian, Tucson Arizona). However, no reference to their Irish birthplace or residence has been found, although the "Tithe" records show numerous Kelly families in the South-West Cork area around Bantry, the same location as the Barrys and Connollys, who of course immigrated to Canada the same time as the Kellys.

² This clearly disputes the claim made by Clive Hirschhorn in his 1975 Biography of Gene Kelly entitled "Gene Kelly A Biography" in which he states Gene Kelly's ancestors were descendants of Peter Robinson settlers in Peterborough. He further describes the era as a "rough, tough" time in American History.

³ Hannah Tangney married a William C. Barry of Buffalo New York at Saint Peter's Church in Peterborough on April 18, 1882. William C. Barry was the oldest son of John C. Barry an older brother of Catherine Barry who married John² Kelly in 1863.

⁴ Michael E. Tangney was the founder of the "Tangney Furniture Store" in Lindsay in 1898 and which has been continuously in the Tangney name since.

Canada⁵. Sadly, their oldest child Mary is also thought to have died prior to or possibly during their voyage to Quebec, which was probably aboard a timber ship called the "Deely Brigg." This was a British owned timber ship that sailed between Quebec City and Bantry during this period, delivering Canadian Timber and returning with Irish immigrants in quickly converted cargo holds. Therefore, they (as the Kellys) would have been among the earliest of the Irish Immigrants to be processed at the Immigration Station in Grosse Ile Quebec, as it was established early in 1832 to process incoming immigrants at the onslaught of the 1832 Cholera epidemic, some of them being turned away at New York City. However, no records of Patrick¹ Barry or his family have been found there, but this is not surprising as the early record keeping there is known to have been very poor.

Unlike John¹ Kelly, Patrick and his young family did not immigrate directly to Peterborough, but remained in either Quebec or Nova Scotia for a few years and then moved on to Vermont, probably to the Saint Albans area in northern Vermont along the Quebec border⁶. Their next child Mary Ann was born there in October 1836 and possibly another child Margaret, in 1837, just prior to their departure. Therefore, Patrick and his young family did not arrive in the Peterborough area until probably late in 1837 where he is listed in the Peterborough Directory as living in North Monaghan.

Again like John¹ Kelly, it is unlikely Patrick¹ Barry had any previous family connection in the Peterborough area. Neither a James Barry family from Doneraile County Cork who had settled in Asphodel Township or a John Barry, Irish, but origin unknown, who settled in Douro and both from the 1825 Peter Robinson Mission, have ever been traced to Patrick¹ Barry and Ellen Connolly.

Patrick, his wife Ellen and their young family again seemed to have remained quite unsettled upon their arrival in the Peterborough area. Although they were recorded in the 1837 Peterborough Directory as living in North Monaghan, they are shortly thereafter recorded in the 1839 Ops Township Directory and again in that Census (taken January 1840) as "Head of the Household," with eight children. Their first Canadian born child **Catherine** is later recorded in the 1852 Census as born in Lindsay⁷ in 1839. Then again in the 1840 and again in the 1841 Peterborough Directories, they are recorded as living back in North Monaghan. During this period, they had another daughter, Bridget (Ann) who is also recorded in the later 1852 census as born in Peterborough in 1841, consistent with the directory listings for their location at that time. It is assumed, that Patrick during this period worked in the newly developed and by then thriving mill industries, in both Lindsay and Peterborough. It would also be a very safe assumption that these two old families first established their long standing ties during this period, as some of the earliest parishioners of the newly built Saint Peter's Church in Peterborough (built 1837). However, Patrick and his family are later documented as living in Asphodel Township in 1845, where they had their last child,

Hannorah, born in 1847. Sadly, their last two children Bridget and Hannorah died young and are buried at Saint Paul's cemetery near Norwood. On April 30 1849, Patrick and Ellen purchased their first property, consisting of the North-East quarter of Lot-9; Concession 2 Asphodel Township, where they built a log house and barn (approximately one kilometer South of Westwood). Following this purchase, Patrick embarked on a couple other short term land transactions in Asphodel Township, culminating in 1856 with the purchase of what was to become the Barry Homestead, a kilometer or so south of the Village of Hastings on Lot-15; Concession 11 in Percy Township (Northumberland County). Although this property was largely uncleared at the time, it had a recently built frame house on it, which must have pleased Ellen enormously. However, Patrick's primary interest seems to have been associated with the construction of the "Colborne to Norwood Road," which was under construction during this period, as within a few years he sold a large chunk of his newly acquired property to the "Corporation of Percy" for this road passage. He then undoubtedly cut and sold the abundance of cedar on the lower wet lying sections of this property to the township for stabilizing the new road bed. However, again tragedy struck, with the back-to-back deaths of his daughter-in-law Catherine (Daly) Barry on February 15, 1863 and then ten days later, with the death of his wife, Ellen on February 25th.

Patrick then remarried four years later, in May 1867 at Saint Michael's Catholic Church in Bellville Ontario at age-seventy-five, to Mary Campbell of Bellville, age-thirty-four, Patrick's oldest son took over the Hastings farm and Patrick and Mary moved to Bellville, where they had a daughter Anna born in 1868 and a son Michael born in 1871. Patrick remained in Belleville and subsequently died there in April 1880 at eight-eight years of age. He is buried alongside his first wife at Saint Paul's Cemetery near Norwood. Mary moved to Cleveland Ohio shortly thereafter to be closer to her sister and raised her two children there, working as a seamstress. She maintained her close ties with the Hastings Barrys throughout her life and subsequently died in Cleveland in June 1918. She is buried along side her sister in Calvary Cemetery in Cleveland. Patrick and Ellen's children married as follows:

Elizabeth married Thomas McDonald of Asphodel Township in 1847 and had three children; they remained on the adjacent property from which Patrick's original fifty acres in Asphodel Township were severed.

Patrick² Barry married Catherine Daly⁸ of Hastings in 1856 and had three children, eventually taking over his father's farm in Percy Township.

William married Mary Holland of Douro also in 1856 and had nine children. He originally lived and worked in Red Mills (Trent University site) but in 1861 purchased an adjacent farm to his father's Percy Township place.

John C. married Margaret Connolly of Seymour Township in 1856 as well and shortly thereafter moved to Buffalo New York where he originally worked as a lumber agent for Henry Fowlds, a Hasting lumbering baron and the founder of the village. He remained in Buffalo.

Ellen at age eighteen, married Joseph Asselin of Saint Polycarp Canada East (Quebec) in 1850 at Saint Mary's in Hastings, and had twelve children, the first two born in Peterborough, the next child born in Saint

⁵ An 1832 birth record from St. XXX in Bantry documents this birth but with a few minor discrepancies. However, this follows a well known pattern of Bantry area immigrants to Quebec during this period first moving into Bantry and working at the English owned sawmill there to cut the incoming Canadian timber, but eventually taking passage on the returning timber ships to Quebec.

⁶ The Irish immigration pattern in the early 1830s to this area was almost exclusively from SW Cork via Quebec.

⁷ In 1844 Purdy's Mills became Lindsay.

⁸ Great Grandparents of author of this article

Polycarp and the remaining nine born in Perkinsfield in Tiny Township near Penetanguishene Ontario.

Mary Ann at age nineteen married John Connolly of Seymour Township in 1856 as well (brother of her sister-in-law Margaret Connolly-Barry. They remained on the Seymour farm where they had five children.

Margaret at about age about twenty-eight married a James Ryan of Norwood and also moved to Buffalo, New York where they had five children.

Anna Barry, the first born daughter of Patrick and his second wife Mary Campbell married a Joseph William Todd of Bellville and resided in Cleveland Ohio all her life, where she died in 1949 and is buried in Knollwood Cemetery there.

Michael James Barry (from the same marriage) married a Helen Reeves from Sharon Pennsylvania and returned to Hastings in the late 1930s following the death of his wife Helen. He died a few years later at the Ontario Hospital in London Ontario, where he was



Kelly Family 1918

Taken at the rear of the family home at 257 Rubidge St.

Front Row :Mae & Jim (Fred and Gene's father)

Back Row : Tom, Bill (Tubby) I, Mike, Madge, Jack, George and Mary Ann

undergoing "Shock Treatments" for Epilepsy. He is thought to be buried at St. Peter's Catholic Cemetery in London.

John Kelly and Catherine Barry (2nd Generation)

Shortly after the death of Catherine's mother and sister-in-law in 1863, things improved considerably for the Barry family. Catherine at age twenty and the only Canadian born child of Patrick¹ Barry to survive to adulthood married John² Kelly of Peterborough at Saint Mary's Church⁹ in Hastings on 10 June 1863, where their witnesses were a Catherine Holland & Jas McGuire. John and Catherine immediately took up residence in the town of Peterborough and began their family shortly thereafter.

John in the early days following his marriage was employed as a labourer in Peterborough and of course Catherine was busy starting her family, eventually bearing thirteen children, nine of whom survived to adulthood (six boys & three girls). Catherine and John's first born were twin girls; Catherine and Mary Ellen, born December 22 1863 and baptized at Saint Peter's Church on December 27, 1863.

Sadly, both children died six months later on August 24, 1864. They had twelve more children as follows; **William**, born 1865; **John J.** born 1866; **Mary Anne** born 1868; **Michael Barry Kelly** born 1870; **Thomas Joseph** born 1872, **Margaret Ellen** (Madge) born 1873; **Patrick James Joseph**, born in 1875;¹⁰ **Frederick George** born 1877; **Catherine** 1879; **Katie E.** born 1883; **Agnes Mae** born 1884 and **George Patrick** born 1887. Sadly, Catherine, Frederick George and Katie E. all died as small children in 1886, probably due to Diphtheria. The remaining nine children (six boys and three girls all obtained their education in Peterborough, with the boys all attending the Murray Street School for Catholic boys and the girls attending the Saint Mary's school for girls on Hunter Street West and then all presumably obtaining their high school education at the Peterborough Collegiate Institute, before entering various occupations and professions.

On this street corner of Sherbrooke, a red brick two



storey store and dwelling have been erected for **Mr. John Kelly**, Superintendent of Little Lake Cemetery, by Mr. J. W. Alford. The store is 18x

36 and the residence wing 22x22. On the first floor are parlour, dinning room and kitchen; on the second floor six bedrooms, closets etc. The brickwork which is a very neat job, was done by Mr. Ed Webb, cost \$1,600. [Martha Kidd, *Peterborough's Architectural Heritage*]

John and Catherine Kelly seemed to prosper in Peterborough, with John eventually accepting a position as Superintendent of Little Lake Cemetery in 1879 a position he held until 1896. He is subsequently listed in the In 1883 Peterborough Directory as living on Sherbrooke Street West of George Street as a freeholder but in 1889 and 1890 he is listed as living in the Superintendent's house at Little Lake Cemetery. While working at Little Lake Cemetery, he developed a couple of homes on his properties, both of which are still standing today, at 257 Rubidge Street and 310 Sherbrooke (corner of Sherbrooke and Rubidge). John was always a much respected man, held in very high esteem by the Peterborough community, especially for his work at Little Lake Cemetery.

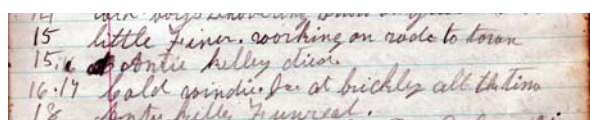
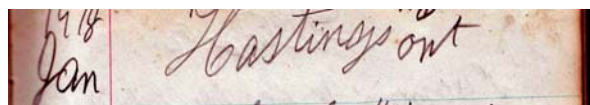
Toward the end of his tenure at Little Lake Cemetery, John and Catherine are thought to have moved to their newly built home at 257 Rubidge Street and are subsequently listed in the Peterborough Directory as living there in 1893. The 1901 census then lists John as a saw mill labourer and landscaper, occupations he assumed upon leaving Little Lake Cemetery. All the while he continued to operate his newly built store at the corner of Rubidge Street and Sherbrooke Street, along with the help of his children. His daughter Margaret took over the store operation in 1906 following her marriage to John Donoghue (Ref. 1913 Post Card). Sadly, John was subsequently institutionalized at the Mimico

⁹ Became "Our Lady of Mount Carmel" in about 1902, shortly after the 1898 when the present day church was built in 1898.

¹⁰ Was known as Jim and was the father of Gene Kelly the subject of this article.

Hospital in Toronto in about 1914, presumably for what is recognized today as Alzheimer's disease.

Catherine (Barry) Kelly remained at home with her daughter Mae and son George until a fall in early January of 1918, which resulted in a broken hip and her subsequent death a week later at Saint Joseph's Hospital on January 15, 1918. All her children most of whom had moved to the USA, returned home and were with her at the time of her death. Her husband, John¹ Kelly remained institutionalized for about three more years following Catherine's death and then died in Saint Michael's Hospital in Toronto on 17 June 1921.



Daily Journal, William J. Barry

They are both buried at Saint Peter's Cemetery along side their four young children, who predeceased them. The Kelly properties, although tied up in the Public Trustees office for a period, as John died intestate, ultimately remained in the ownership of their nine children until the early 1940's when the Dale family bought the store and adjacent property at the corner of Rubidge and Sherbrooke Street.



One of the most pleasing features of a higher and refined Christian Civilization is the spirit of respect shown for the

beloved dead as developed in beautifying their last resting places. In this regard, Mr. John Kelly, Superintendent of the Little Lake Cemetery seems to be an excellent exponent of the feelings of those who have propriety or sentimental interests in this beautiful city of the dead. His whole management has been marked by energy and taste, and his programme for this season's



operations will, when carried out, add greatly to the attractiveness of this favorite resort of the living and beautiful abode of the past. (Peterborough Examiner, 1890)

John and Catherine's first born, William became a printer and eventually moved to Chicago, but never married. He died in Detroit in about 1930 while recuperating from major surgery. He had been staying with his sister Mae in Detroit and was struck by a car while taking a daily walk.

John J. also became a blacksmith following in his grandfather's footsteps and practiced his trade in Peterborough and Hastings prior to moving to Detroit where he changed occupations and became a sales

representative for a plumbing supplies company. He married (Nora) but did not have any children. He also maintained close ties throughout his life with his first cousin William John Barry of Hastings¹¹ and was his best man when he married Mary Ellen Lee of Seymour Township (Campbellford) on February 16 1890. John died at age seventy-four on August 18, 1940 in Detroit.

On 26 November 1889 Mary Anne married Richard Sheehy in Saint Peter's Cathedral, Peterborough. Richard was born in Lyrefoune, Tipperary, Ireland, the son of Richard¹ Sheehy and Mary Sisk who immigrated to Canada (Peterborough) in 1863. Richard was a stone mason and builder by trade who had learned his trade in California and Hawaii but returned to Peterborough to start a construction Company¹² in the late 1880's. He became a very reputable and successful builder in the area with many local area historic churches and public buildings to his credit.¹³ They lived beside Mary Anne's parents at 257 Rubidge Street until December 1917 when they purchased the Stratton House at 751 George Street North. They had eight children, but unfortunately Richard Sheehy died suddenly at age-sixty-six on June 5 1925. Mary Anne lived on with some of her grown children in the house until July 27 1951 when she died at age-eighty-three in Saint Joseph's Hospital.



Michael Barry Kelly; also became a printer and then moved to Buffalo New York where he married (Margaret) in about 1900 and had one daughter, Anna.

Thomas Joseph Kelly; graduated from Queens University in Kingston in about 1887 with a degree in medicine and practiced medicine in Bay City and then Mount Pleasant Michigan. He was married, divorced and then remarried. He died in Michigan in about 1925.

Margaret Ellen Kelly; married John Thomas O'Donoghue of Peterborough on June 28, 1906 in Saint Peter's Church. They remained in Peterborough for a few years running the Kelly store at Sherbrooke and Rubidge Street, but also moved on to Detroit where John worked as an electrician for the Detroit Transit Authority. They had five children, two of whom became nuns, one still living in a retirement home in Munroe Michigan and Catherine who recently died in a nursing home in Detroit.

Agnes Mae Kelly; remained in Peterborough and married Richard Vincent O'Brien¹⁴ shortly after her

¹¹ Is Regularly mentioned in William John Barry's Daily Journal (1900-1926)

¹² Paper entitled "751 George Street" by P. Delaney, Trent University Archives.

¹³ Example, Sacred Heart Church, Major Renovations to Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Hastings, Saint Mary's Campbellford.

¹⁴ Was also the nephew of Richard² Sheehy.

father's death in 1921 on October 1, 1922. They relocated to Toronto where their first child Catherine Patricia was born, but eventually moved on to Detroit. Richard worked in management in the auto industry there and they had one more child Michael Kelly O'Brien born 1925 and died in Detroit in 2000.

George Patrick Kelly; never married and remained in Peterborough running the family store up to about 1941, maintaining his close ties with his Barry cousins in Hastings. He was a member of Immaculate Conception Parish and died in Marycrest Nursing home on Rogers Street on March 5 1955. He is also buried at Saint Peter's Cemetery.

James Patrick Joseph Kelly and Harriet Catherine Curran

(3rd Generation)

One of the middle children born to John² Kelly and his wife Catherine Barry was **James Patrick Joseph**, who as previously discussed, was born in Peterborough on October 9, 1875. Although he was mainly raised on Sherbrooke Street, while in his mid teens he would have lived in the Superintendents house at Little lake Cemetery for a brief period in the late 1880s, when his father John was Superintendent there. He obtained his common school education¹⁵ at the Murray Street School for Catholic Boys at the corner of Aylmer and Murray Street (the present site of the Peterborough Armory) and probably went on to obtain further secondary school education at the Peterborough Collegiate and Vocational School. He was locally



Murray Street School, Peterborough

known as Jim, but during his teen years

was better known for his keen interest in sports, as well as for his athletic prowess. Later, as a teenager, growing up at 257 Rubidge Street, he also shared the responsibilities of operating the newly established family store at the corner of Sherbrooke and Rubidge Streets with his older siblings. However, in 1893 at age eighteen, he went to work for the Canadian General Electric Company¹⁶ where he probably worked as a clerk or office worker associated with the manufacturing of electric street cars, which was their primary business during this period. Jim remained with CGE for about three years to about 1895 or 1896, when following in his older brother Michael's footsteps (who had moved to Buffalo a few years earlier, as a printer) Jim too sought the bright lights of a larger city. So, in 1897 at age twenty-two, Jim also moved to Buffalo, where although he had relatives on both sides of the family, he lived with

¹⁵ Common School typically went to Grade-10.

¹⁶ Formerly the Canadian Edison Company, but became Canadian General Electric in 1892.

WEDDING BELLS

KELLY—CURRAN

The Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph of Aug. 20th, says:—Miss Harriet C. Curran, and James P. J. Kelly, of Peterborough, Ont., were married this morning in St. Paul's Roman Catholic Cathedral. The ceremony was followed by a wedding breakfast at the home of the bride. Among those present at the wedding was Dr. T. J. Kelly, of Bay City, brother of the groom.

Mr. Kelly and bride will spend their honeymoon in Peterborough.

his aunt Margaret (Barry) Ryan at 223 Plymouth Avenue. There, he worked as a rail-road clerk (probably the Buffalo Transit company) for about three years to about 1900. At this point, his career completely changed, when he accepted a position as a commercial sales representative with the Columbia Gramophone Company, in Pittsburgh Pennsylvania.

St. Peters Church Records @ Trent Valley Archives Reel # 5

October 27, 1875;

I the undersigned priest baptized PATRICK JAMES of the lawful marriage of John Kelly and Catherine Barry.

Sponsors Marcellus McDonald and Mary McDonald.

Jim with his athletic good looks, his outgoing personality and taste for good clothes, succeeded in his career and soon established a comfortable life style in Pittsburgh. He eventually met and later married Harriet Catherine Curran, the daughter of William (Billy) Curran and Elizabeth Eckhart. Billy Curran was the son of an early 1800's Irish immigrant from Belfast Ireland to West Virginia and as a young man originally worked in the coal mines of West Virginia. He later moved his family to Lancaster County Pennsylvania, where he owned and operated a very successful hotel and bar operation. Jim and Harriet were married on August 20, 1907 in Pittsburgh, just shortly after the death of Harriet's father, Billy, who apparently died following a beating during a botched robbery attempt; he had been on his way home from work.

Jim and Harriet had five children as follows: Harriet Joan born 1908 (became known as "Jay," James born 1910, **Eugene Curran** born 1912 (became known as Gene), Louise born 1915 and **Frederick** born 1917 (became known as Fred).

10 AM December 23 1913.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Donoghue
Rubidge & Sherbrooke St.
Peterborough
Ontario
Canada

This was taken early in summer but forgot about them. They had been playing and they sure look like it. Jim said what's the difference.

More later!

Harriet

Jim with his keen interest in sports, especially ice-hockey, is said to have held differing expectations for the

children, urging the children towards sports, specially the boys into ice-hockey. Every winter he flooded his back



The Five Kellys

yard, allowing the boys to hone their hockey skills. However, Harriet is said to have urged the entire family into the arts and dance. The five children all took dance lessons and their mother Harriet formed them into an amateur dance troupe called "The Five Kelly's," Jay, Jim, Gene, Louise and Fred. All five children attended Sacred Heart Catholic School near their Kensington Street home, in Pittsburgh and later the Peabody High School.



Back, Gene, 1 and Jim Sr; Front, Louise, 5, Jim Jr, 2.

However, Barry family history has it that Jim returned to Peterborough for a very short period when he was out of work in 1927, just prior to the depression and during the collapse of the phonograph business. Gene as a boy of fifteen or sixteen is said to have played hockey for a local Peterborough team that winter. He would have played out of the privately owned Brock Street Arena, which his first cousin Sarsfield Sheehy operated at the time.¹⁷ Following this very short stay in Peterborough, Jim returned to Pittsburgh and went to work as the accountant for the family run dance studios, which the family was forming in Pittsburgh and later in Johnstown,

¹⁷ Don Barrie, a local sports historian and former hockey scout with the Buffalo Sabers, advises that the only probable way an out-of-town boy could have played any advance level hockey in Peterborough during this period (no scouting system existed then) would have been through an inside contact such as through the Sheehys who operated the Brock Arena. Thus, this point requires further research, but if found would mean Gene Kelly may have played minor hockey in Peterborough during the same era as the famous Ace Bailey, of the Toronto Maple Leafs.

both of which eventually gained much success. Thus, Jim Kelly remained with the Gene Kelly Dance studio in Pittsburgh until he retired.

Jim Kelly constantly maintained his family ties to the Peterborough area with his sister Mary Anne Sheehy, his brother George and of course with his parents John and Catherine up to their deaths in 1918 and 1921, as well as with his cousin William John Barry and his sister Mary-Ellen McFadden in Hastings.¹⁸ His last visit to Peterborough was probably in July 1951 to attend his sister Mary Ann Sheehy's funeral. Jim's younger brother George died in Peterborough in March 1955, but Jim was not able to attend his funeral due to failing health. The following year in July 1956 Jim at age eighty-one also sadly passed away, shortly after hearing the heart breaking news that his son Gene and his wife Betsy Blaire had decided to seek a divorce. Of course, Gene returned from France where he was filming "Invitation to the Dance." for his father's funeral. Jim was the second longest living of his siblings, with only his younger sister Mae outliving him in Detroit Michigan. Jim's wife Harriet then sadly passed away about six years later in 1972. May they rest in peace.

Gene Visits the Hastings Farm

One favorite story told by Mary (Barry) Leonard and Catherine (Barry) Lawless (cousins of the Kelly family)



tell of a Kelly family visit to the Hastings farm, when a young Gene, at about six years old (consistent with when the family was home for their mother's funeral in 1918, stuck his head in a Cream Pail and got it stuck there. A quick thinking Mary Ellen Barry (wife of Jim Senior's first cousin William John Barry) is said to have slathered butter

Gene & Canadian Cousin Pat O'Brien
1948

around his head and slid him out. Thus, one may speculate that Gene may well have obtained that scar on his right temple that he was so famous for, on the Barry Farm in Hastings.

Harriet Joan (Jay) Kelly; Jim and Harriet's oldest daughter became a grade school teacher and married a Doctor Michael Radoonsky who became a Superintendent of Schools in Pittsburgh.

Jim Kelly Jnr; became a medical doctor, married and moved to Buffalo and then later on to California.

Eugene Curran (Gene) Kelly obtained a BA in Economics from the University of Pittsburgh and then studied Law for a brief period. However, he subsequently left law school to devote more time to his first passion, the dance.¹⁹ He married a fellow dancer and movie actress Betsy Blaire in Saint John's Catholic Church in

¹⁸ Supported by a 1943 Peterborough Examiner interview with Nora Sheehy daughter of Mary Ann Kelly and Richard Sheehy and regular entries in the 1900-1926 Journal of William John Barry in Hastings.

¹⁹ Picture of Gene Kelly taken in 1948 at his home on Rodeo Drive in Beverly Hills California (taken during filming of "On The Town") with his first cousin Patricia O'Brien, born in Toronto, daughter of Mae Kelly and Dick O'Brien, both raised in Peterborough.

Philadelphia in September 1941. He later starred on various Broadway hits such as: *Leave It to Me* and *One for the Money*; 1939, he was dance director for Billy Rose's Diamond Horseshoe club; 1940 and had the lead role in stage musical *Pal Joey*; 1942, which was his first big success. Following this in 1942, he went to Hollywood where he made his motion pictures debut with MGM

to maintain as normal a life style for them as possible. Although he never visited Peterborough from the time of his childhood, various family members talk of his interest and phone calls to Peterborough and Hastings catching up on his family connections in the area. Sadly, Gene passed away on February 2 1996, after suffering a series of strokes at his home in Beverly Hills.



studios in "For Me and My Gal." He then served in the US Navy from 1943-1945. Following this he returned to Hollywood where in 1950, and went on to fame in other motion pictures such as "Take Me Out To The Ball Game," 1948, "On The Town" with Frank Sinatra, 1948 and "Singin In The Rain," 1950. He starred in at least 45 movies and directed ten of those. He won an Honorary Oscar in 1951, in appreciation of his versatility as an actor, singer, dancer and director and specifically for his brilliant achievements in choreography on film. Gene often attributed his more athletic dance style to the influence of the skating skills and hockey maneuvers, some of which he probably learned in Peterborough, but for certain, taught by his Canadian father. In comparing his dance style to Fred Astaire, he often referred to Fred as the aristocrat and himself as the proletariat.

As quoted in the *New Yorker*, Gene Kelly remembered how ice-hockey would later influence his dancing: "I played ice hockey as a boy and some of my steps come right out of the game--wide open and close to the ground." At 15, Kelly was playing with a semi-professional ice hockey team.

Gene and his wife Betsy Blaire had a daughter Kerry born in 1942. Kerry was primarily raised in Beverly Hills, but returned with her mother to New Jersey during Gene's tenure in the US Navy during the second world war. Gene and Betsy Blair divorced in 1956 and a few years later he remarried Jeannie Coyne a long time dance student and dance partner. They had two children; Timothy born 1962 and Bridget born 1964. Jeannie sadly died of leukemia in 1973, may she rest in peace. Gene did not remarry again following Jeannie's death, until 1990, shortly before his death. He preferred raising his two young children from his second marriage on his own, sending them to catholic schools in Beverly Hills and tying

Photo: Frank Sinatra, Pat O'Brien, Gene Kelly, friend of Pat O'Brien.

In the final words of Gene Kelly from 1994's "That's Entertainment," Quoting Irving Berlin, Gene Kelly remarks, "**The song has ended, but the melody lingers on.**" So it is with Gene Kelly, he may no longer be with us, but he will remain in our hearts forever. May he rest in peace!

Gene's oldest daughter Kerry presently lives in Anne Arbor Michigan where she is a Psychometrician and her husband is a Psychologist and professor of Psychology at the University of Michigan, where they have jointly written and published a number of books on Psychology. Gene's other children, Timothy and Bridget both work in the film industry in Hollywood, with many credits to their names. **Louise Kelly**, the second youngest of the Pittsburgh Kellys, married and remained in Pittsburgh where she and her husband continued to run the family dance studio.

However, she now lives in Dothan Alabama with her only daughter Kathy who now runs the "Gene Kelly Dance Studio" based in Dothan.

Fred Kelly; the youngest of the Pittsburgh Kellys, following university where he obtained a BA in History, also embarked on a dance career and was said to be a better dancer in many respects than older brother Gene. In 1940 he replaced Gene in the Broadway



Fred Kelly
Abt. 1950

production "The Time of Your Life," which won both the "Critics Choice Circle Award" and the "Pulitzer Prize," which was the first time a show won both of these prestigious awards. Some time later, his wife Dorothy while explaining to a Broadway director how she met Fred (whom both Gene and Fred had danced for) explained that "she had just adored the boy next door." That conversation became immortalized

in the Martin and Blaine song, "The Boy Next Door," which Judy Garland sings in the film "Meet Me in St. Louis." Fred continued collaborating with Gene on various movies, choreographed musical groups such as The Four Aces, The Four Lads and The Four Diamonds. Fred and Gene would only appear on film once together, in 1955's *Deep in My Heart*. Their number, "I Love to Go Swimmin' With Wimmen," recalls the type of performances they gave as "The Kelly Brothers" in the 1930s.



Fred and Dottie opened their own dance studio which eventually became the largest in New Jersey, where such stars as John Travolta were among their students. Fred also became "Professor-of-Dance" at Pace University in Manhattan as well as at Princeton University and West Point. Harry Belafonte was one of his students while teaching dance at New York's New School.

Fred and Dottie sold their dance studio in New Jersey in 1983 and moved to Tucson Arizona to retire near their daughter Colleen. Fred remained a dedicated family man, devout Catholic and active member of The Knights of Columbus and a local municipal politician. Sadly Dottie died of lung cancer in 1985 and Fred died on March 15, 2000. They are both buried in Tucson. May they rest in peace!

Patrick Lavin a Kelly family friend and Irish genealogist / historian and author in Tucson shares the following recollection of first meeting Fred Kelly in 1998. I spent an evening with Fred at his home and it was a memorable occasion. He was a thoroughly fascinating character and the archetypal Irish storyteller. I was enthralled as he heaped one anecdote upon the next.

Fred and Dottie had three children, the first a son they named, Barry Kelly, was born in 1943 but a bout of brain fever left him mentally impaired until he died in 1968. Another son, Michael, was born in 1949 and presently works as a stage manager in California." Their daughter Colleen, born in 1953, lives in Tucson with her husband Jim Beaman and has four children, one of which was just recently married. She is a former high school drama teacher, and dance instructor and now runs a dance studio out of Tucson called "Dance Kelly Style." She also does sessional teaching at various universities, both domestically and internationally, including the "University of Toronto," so hopefully she will soon include a visit to Peterborough to visit the area her ancestors settled so many years ago.

There are presently no known descendants of this family in the area that carry the Kelly name, as all the Kelly Boys (sons of John² Kelly and Catherine Barry) went to the USA. It is therefore thought that all present day Kelly (name) descendants in the USA are from the direct line of James Patrick Joseph Kelly and his wife Harriet Catherine Curran, as all of James Patrick's brothers either

didn't marry or didn't have any sons to carry the Kelly name on. However, there are various Sheehy descendants, from the Mary Ann Kelly-Sheehy²⁰ line in the Peterborough area, notably Eleanor Sheehy-Sheedy and her sister Elizabeth Merrell Sheehy-Morrissey in Ennismore. Various Barry family members²¹ from the slightly more distant Catherine Barry-Kelly connection (including the writer and his sister Fran) are living in the Peterborough, Hastings and Campbellford area. Other more distant family members are the Tangney family²² in the Lindsay area.

Photo: Gene Kelly, 1942

PETERBOROUGH ENTERTAINMENT 1889

Peterborough Review, 21 September 1889

Here at the Station

The C.P.R. Northwest exhibit is at the station in readiness to be taken to the fair grounds on Tuesday next.

Calcutt's Line of Steamers

Parties wanting to see the best quality of wood ever brought into Peterborough should go down to the wharf opposite Cavanagh's hotel.

Words to Bald-headed Gentlemen

While Prof. Dorewend is visiting at Phelan's hotel on Tuesday and Wednesday, Sept 24 and 25, you should call on him and see his fine Toupee and Wigs, they are arranged for heads that are partly or wholly bald. There is no heavy wiggy appearance about them, being made on feather-weight principle; the closest observer cannot detect that they are artificial. If you do not live in town come in anyway, the Prof. Will pay your fare both ways. The opportunity is rare, do not let it slip by you.

A Sudden Death

Anthony Hickey, a young man known by a large number around town, died very suddenly this morning. He was on the streets yesterday and had made all preparations to leave for the North this morning. He retired as well as usual last night and occupied the same bed with his brother. This morning his brother was awakened by the moaning of the deceased and immediately summoned assistance but before aid arrived the young man, who was only 23 years of age, had breathed his last. A blood vessel bursting is supposed to have been the cause of death. Dr Fife, Coroner, was notified but an inquest was not considered necessary.

YMCA Notes

Tonight at 8 pm Young Men's Meeting, theme, "Christ Our Shepherd." Singing led by YMCA orchestra.

Sabbath morning. Bible Class, 9:30 to 10:15.

Mr E. A. Pearson, B. A., Cannington, will address the Gospel Song Services on Sabbath evening at 8:30. We

²⁰ Mary Ann Kelly-Sheehy was the older sister of James Patrick Joseph Kelly.

²¹ The Barry families in the area are descendants of Patrick and William Barry, brothers of Catherine Barry-Kelly.

²² The Tangneys are descendants of Ellen Kelly and John Tangney, Ellen being the older sister of John² Kelly.

urge all young men to attend these delightful services. They only last one hour and are bright and cheerful. The Ladies' Auxiliary will hold an important meeting Monday afternoon at 4 pm.

Ponies in a Military Drill

Referring to Prof. Morris' Equine and Canine Paradox Company, an Indianapolis paper says: – "Two butters in the shape of goats, 11 ponies and upwards of 30 dogs, under the direction of their trainer, Prof. Morris, gave an exhibition worth many times the price of admission. The willingness of the sagacious animals was remarkable. It really seemed as if they could do everything but talk, and a great many of the feats performed were wonderful. The evolutions of the ponies in a military drill were certainly remarkable. A leaping match by half a dozen of the dogs was an interesting event on the programme. An English greyhound astounds the spectators by making a magnificent high jump of over ten feet. Two of the ponies execute a waltz in good time and very gracefully. The goats "Robson" and "Crane" are comedians of no mean order, and "Shepherd" the clown dog is immense." Opera House, Peterborough, Sept. 25th and 26th, matinee in the afternoon.



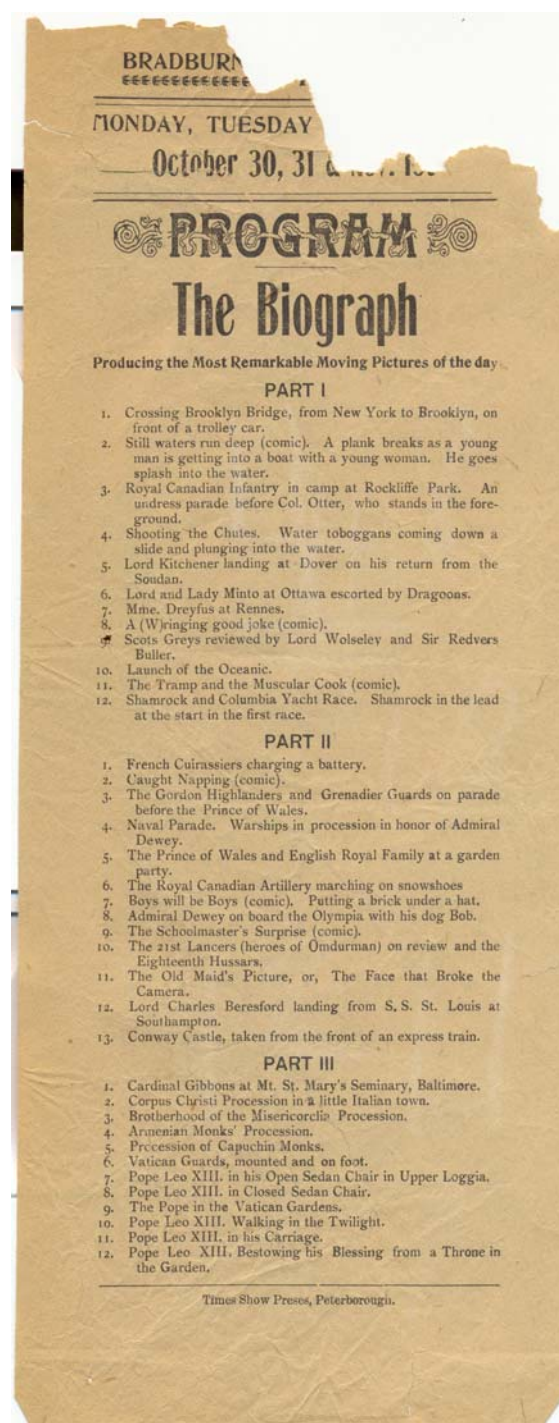
Opera House, Peterborough

SPECIAL MATINEE at the Opera House Thursday at 4.15. The greatest and only show of the kind in the world, at the Opera House, Wednesday and Thursday, Sept. 25th and 26th. Special matinee Thursday at 4.15.

Opening the Opera House

The season opened at the Opera House last evening, when the dramatization of Rider Haggard's "She" was put on the boards by Webster & Brady's Dramatic Company. This, the opening play of the season, was greeted with a good house, and the audience received the presentation of the spectacular production with approbation and were well pleased with the company. The play in some parts was good while in others it lacked, somewhat, dramatic effect, but as a whole it was acceptable. Miss Marie Rene assumed the role of "She," and endowed the part with dignity, and, possessing an extremely attractive and beautiful stage appearance, she made a very favourable impression. Mr Jean Williams appeared in the dual

character of father and son – Vinery and Leo – and acquitted himself admirably. The cast, taken as a whole, was well filled, and the audience seemed satisfied with the presentation. The season has opened with a first-class company rendering a good drama, and as this will be the character of all the companies which will play here this season the theatre-going public may expect a good season's programme.



Program, Bradburn Opera House, 1905 (TVA, Bradburn Family fonds)

CANADA CEMENT EMPLOYEES HOLD ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE

Vocal and Instrumental Numbers by Children
Feature of Program
IS ENJOYABLE EVENT

Peterborough Examiner, 28 December 1931

LAKEFIELD, Dec 28 (Examiner Correspondence)

The annual Christmas tree of the big family of Canada Cement Company drew a crowd of between 300 and 400 people of all ages to the Town Hall on Wednesday evening. The evening's program was in five distinct parts, each a complete entertainment, and yet all blended together to make a real family affair.

E. W. Bailey, plant superintendent, was chairman and filled the role in a very capable and efficient manner. The first section of the program was the children's part, a real real children's concert with about forty children taking part in the choruses, etc., which delighted the audience. This part was as usual in charge of Mrs G. Craig Bell, who had spared no effort to ensure its success. The opening chorus was especially written and composed by Mrs Bell for this occasion and scored a hit which started the whole evening off well.

The following is the children's program:

Opening chorus: son, Frances Young; recitation, Isobel Brown; duet, Muriel Miles and Betty Brown; song, Mary Nolan; recitations, Madeline Morin; duet, Veronica McFadden and Doris Chittick; recitation, Olive Reil; recitation, Betty Brown; Part 2 – Chorus, children; recitations, Kathleen Mose, Doris O'Neil, and Violet Hudson; recitation, Otto Graham; recitation, Marcel Lucano and Frances Young; duet, Mildred Miles and Jean Blewett; recitation, Doris Chittick; duet, Dorothy Ruttle and Frances Nolan; final chorus, a medley of favorite airs.

The second part of the program was put on by the employees of plant No. 7, and their Glee Club, also directed by the talented and versatile Mrs Bell. The Glee Club is an organization which should have regular rehearsals and put on a program all its own to which an admission fee would be charged, as its possibilities are great and there is genuine talent among its members. The following is the program:

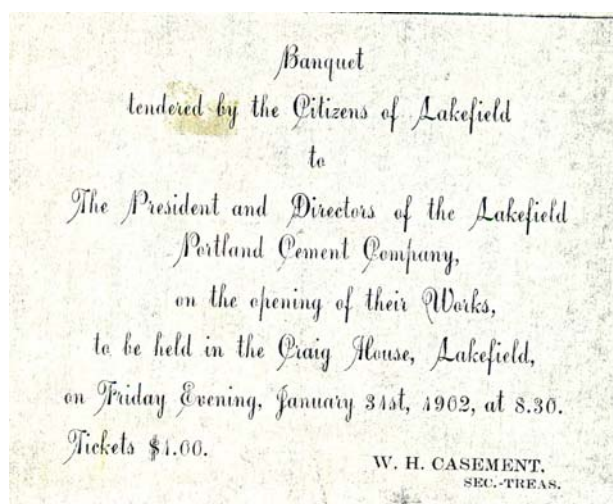
The opening chorus, "Coming Round the Mountain"; solo, Harry Armstrong, "Come Back to Erin"; recitation, Herbert Brown, "Curfew Shall Not Ring Tonight" and "Casey at the Bat"; solo, Norman Abrams, "The Wild Colonial Boy" and "When I Get You Alone Tonight"; duet, Messrs E. Robertson and W. H. Adamson, "A Little Bit Off the Top"; chorus, "Tramping Along"; solo, Ed. Hill, "Annie Laurie"; accordion solo, Stephen Alford; recitation, Mrs Bell, "A Bachelor Sale" and "A Small Boy Seeing a Punch and Judy Show" (a pantomime); chorus, "Can't You Hear Me Calling, Caroline?"; chorus, old favorites, "Memories", "Daisy, Daisy, Give Me Your Answer, Do", "Molly Riley", "Sidewalks of New York", "Rosie O'Grady", "Beside the Seaside", "Hello, Whose Your Lady Friend?" and "Good-Bye".

The men in the Glee Club were Westhall Adamson, sr, Marc Allen, Norman Abrams, Stephen Alford, Harry Armstrong, Herbert Brown, William Bell, Oscar Calberry, Ed Hill, Ernest Robertshaw, and Jack Smith.

The applause was indicative of the enjoyment which the audience took in this part of the program, which was of first-class quality by good home talent.

The third part of the program was in one sense the most important of all, the pivot around which the whole evening revolved, and that was the appearance of Santa in full regalia: scarlet suit, top boots, pack and all. He came through the hall looking just a wee bit tired after the strenuous life he has been leading lately, as this season finds the jolly old saint perpetually on the go. However, when he reached the platform the sight of so many children warmed his old heart and he was fresh and bright. He was assisted by Messrs Bailey, Pearson, E. Hill and Jenkinson in giving out the presents, which numbered well on to two hundred – some for babies of only a few days and some who this year are near the age limit, candies in generous bags for everyone, and a real present well worth receiving.

The fourth part of the program was by important talent, the Cheerio Club of Peterborough who gave a very pleasing hour's entertainment of singing, instrumental numbers, dancing and readings. The orchestral selections were particularly good and were very popular with the audience. Robert Hendry's singing of Harry Lauder favorites brought down the house. Some of the high spots of the Cheerio program were: "The Wee House Mang the Heather," sung with excellent effect by Messrs Smith and Hendry; the solo, "Keep Right on to the End of the Road," by Mr Smith and the solos of Walter Farr.



The Cheerio program was as follows:

Instrumental number, the Cheerio Band; solo, Robert Hendry, "She the Lass for Me" and "When I Meet Mackay"; orchestra; recitation, Mr Peters; duet, Messrs Smith and Hendry, "The Wee House" and "Singing is the Thing to Make Us Cheery"; orchestra; step dance, very good; string quartette, Messrs Fitzgerald, Far, Clark and Hodgson; solo, Mr Smith; orchestra, "Coming Round the Mountain"; solo, Mr Farr; recitation, Mr Peters; solo, Mr Hendry, "I've Something in the Bottle for the Morning" and "There's a Bonny Wee Face"; orchestra.

On behalf of the Athletic Club of the Canada Cement plant of No. 7 Lakefield, Mr Bailey presented a substantial cheque to Mrs Bell in appreciation of her splendid service in training the children and the Glee Club and her co-operation in making the entertainment a success.

Part number five of the program was especially popular with the young people as the Cheerio orchestra furnished excellent music for dancing which made the last part of the evening not by any means the least enjoyable.

Those in the Cheerio orchestra were Messrs Frank Clark, Walter Fitzgerald, Walter Farr, Harry Hodgson, Fred Skitch, Jack Freeman, Bert Arnott, Herb McCannon, Jack Smith, Bob Hendry, Albert Downer and Max Peters.

The evening was a great success in every way and reflected credit in the committee in charge and in the spirit of co-operation developed in the big family of plant No. 7.

VINCENT CLEMENTI WAS PETERBOROUGH'S GODFATHER OF CULTURE

Elwood Jones

Dorothea Flavelle, a teacher at Peterborough's Union School from 1862 to 1875 moved her family to George Street Methodist Church because she objected to the "whiskey-drinking, cock-fighting Anglican missionary" at St John's Anglican Church. Her son, Joseph Flavelle, became one of Peterborough's leading fighters for temperance; we think the object of her scorn was the Rev Vincent Clementi. Clementi was certainly an avid sportsman, and was active in organizations promoting rifles, boating and cricket. Nor would this Anglican minister have supported temperance.

However, even if Mrs Flavelle disapproved, Clementi was the very image of a Victorian gentleman: cultured, well-read, active in rural sports and supportive of any initiative that tended to improve the common good. The Rev. Vincent Clementi was a social dynamo in both Lakefield and Peterborough. As historian F. H. Dobbin noted, "In anything tending to the good of the community he was actively engaged, and much respected and esteemed."

Vincent Clementi was born in the Kensington area of London, the eldest son of Muzio Clementi, the greatest English composer of his age, and his third wife. The young Vincent was surrounded by a wealthy family enjoying fresh triumphs and marked celebrity.

Vincent was educated at Harrow, and became a pensioner at St John's College, Cambridge in 1832, just months after the death of his father. He went to Trinity College, Cambridge in 1834 and received his BA in 1837. He was ordained a deacon, 1837, and a priest, 1839. He was a curate of Chislet, Kent, 1837, and of Thatcham, Berkshire, 1841-1848. He served in other parishes in England.

Vincent Clementi, a widower, arrived at Lakefield in 1855, apparently with funds from former parishioners in England, to help the mission. After the Rev George Warren decided to return to England, Clementi became the second incumbent at North Douro (Lakefield).

Clementi travelled with his two sons, both of whom became land surveyors. Mutius Clementi (1835?-1872), who was placed in Colonel Samuel Strickland's agricultural school, commented, "Many young Englishmen of good family learned the rudiments of practical farming as understood by the genial Colonel. They consisted chiefly in a thorough training in many sports and a fine discrimination in the selection of liquors." His younger brother, Theodore Bold Clementi (1837-1882) was born in Devon.

Vincent's first wife, the former Elizabeth Banks, died in 1848. He remarried in 1860 to Elizabeth Toker (1822-

1889), the third daughter of Colonel Charles Rubidge (1787-1783), and widow of George John Toker (1817-1842). Elizabeth was a terrific helpmate, well-connected to Peterborough society.



Trafalgar, the house at Nicholls' Oval, was for many years the home for the gardener of the Nicholls' parks. Clementi lived here in the 1860s. Thanks to Bruce Dyer for this photo.

Vincent Clementi was the incumbent at Lakefield, 1863-1873, when the new St John the Baptist Anglican Church was built and was the rector of St Paul's Anglican Church, Lindsay, 1881-1883. His religious energies were chiefly St John's Church, Peterborough. He had a front-row pew at the church, and assisted in various ways, taking a particular interest in St John's ministry to the south end after 1875, the roots of what became All Saints Church.

Vincent Clementi and his family lived in the house at Aylmer and Dalhousie Streets built in 1874, and more recently pleasantly expanded by Darling Insurance. However, the family had been in Peterborough since the 1860s, and their earlier homes included the picturesque Trafalgar House, which formerly stood in what is now Nicholl's Oval.

He was Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of Canada, 1861-1868, and was a member of the Corinthian Lodge, Peterborough since 1861. He was a charter member of the new Clementi Lodge in Lakefield, 1874. The Rev Vincent Clementi held many ranks or titles in the Masons (including Symbolic, Templar, and Cryptic Rites). C. P. Mulvany's 1885 history of Peterborough county mentioned that Clementi was then "Grand Prelate under the banner of the Grand Prior of Knights Templar." Clementi supplied documents and historical notes to Mulvany.

In Peterborough, the Rev Vincent Clementi quickly emerged as a major public figure. He was the major fundraiser in the great effort to provide relief for the workers in England who were laid because of the 1862 cotton shortages rightly blamed on the success of Northern blockades of Southern ports since the United States became embroiled in Civil War in April 1861. He was also a patron for the Peterborough Relief Society that was a direct consequence of the Civil War fundraising, and of the Peterborough Protestant Home that was established in 1869. He was always active in the discussions on how to help the poor, and in 1875 supported efforts to create work. He was also the president of Little Lake Cemetery during the 1870s, and supported town government initiatives to crib Little Lake to support a road to the cemetery along what is now Crescent Street.

The Rev Vincent Clementi was, in 1861, the founding president of the Peterborough Horticultural Society, which landscaped the Court House Park. Its success forced the cricket club and the Peterborough Exhibition to hunt for new fields. Clementi was the resident weatherman, and apparently kept systematic records. In 1868, he was the founding vice-president of Peterborough's Mechanics Institute. This became Peterborough's first public library and George Peters was its librarian from 1868 to 1910.



Rev Vincent Clementi (Peterborough Masonic Lodge; photo by Sproule's, working from a copy)

Clementi, a member of the first Royal Canadian Society of Arts, was a talented artist and supported all efforts to promote the arts including the arts programs at the Peterborough exhibition, where he was a frequent exhibitor and judge. Surviving watercolours reveal he was an avid painter, with a picturesque technique and a clever folk arts touch, often labeling his paintings with descriptive tag lines.

In the grand tradition of British gentry, Clementi was an Anglican priest who was free to pursue his sporting and cultural interests. His good business sense, likely inherited from his father, was applied in his ministry at Lakefield and in the South end, as well as at the Mechanics' Institute and the Horticultural Society. As well, he was the president of the well-run and profitable Peterborough Real Estate Investment Company which purchased Peterborough properties for investors based in Edinburgh and London. Peterborough's real estate performed well because the fast-growing town was doubling its population every 20 years as new industries kept coming to town.

Robertson Davies, who often wrote of Peterborough's local history in 1961 donated an album and a letter fragment to his good friend the Peterborough Public

Library librarian, Robert Porter. Davies felt both items would be good additions to the collections being acquired for the new museum. After Davies left, Porter looked closely. In the middle section of the fragment was a comment on that the very prominent widow Frances Stewart had been ravished by Vincent Clementi in the vestry at St John's Church. Porter and the committee faced the classic dilemma of librarians and archivists: should the letter be lost, destroyed or preserved? However, the letter was a joke, written by Robertson Davies, famed prankster. Only the album went to the Peterborough Centennial Museum. The story was especially good because it linked three icons of Peterborough history into one well-told tale.

For nearly 40 years, the Rev Vincent Clementi was Peterborough's cultural godfather; the Flavells notwithstanding, he was influential in local politics, business and culture.

Editor's note: This article first appeared as one of the author's weekly Saturday columns in the Peterborough Examiner, 2007.

BUFFALO BILL COMES TO TOWN

The following characters are drawn from the posters and newspaper advertisements promoting the arrival to Peterborough, 3 July 1897, of Buffalo Bill's Wild West and Congress of Rough Riders of the World," claimed to provide "Reflex of Reality and Romance of American pioneer history allied with all the known horsemanship of primitive and martial fame... An exact duplicate, man for man and horse for horse, of the exhibitions given at the Columbian World's Fair, at Chicago in 1893, all summer in New York in 1894, and in 500 of the principal cities of Europe and America, to which has been added many important novel features, bringing it strictly up-to-date, organized on the most lavish scale with more men and more horses than any two exhibitions."

The show claimed to feature Colonel William F. Cody, aka Buffalo Bill, Nate Salsbury, and James A. Bailey, with 100 Indian warriors; 50 American cowboys; 80 Mexican Vanqueros and rurales; 80 South American Gauchos; 50 Western frontiersmen, marksmen; 25 Bedouin Arabs; 20 Russian Cossacks of the Caucasus; a detachment of US Cavalry; batteries of US Artillery; Royal Irish-English Lancers; German Cuirassiers. The advertising noted that Buffalo Bill would appear in person.

The show claimed to travel with a herd of buffalo on the special railroad trains. The logistics of moving this show must have been incredible. The advertisement claimed it traveled with a covered grandstand seating 20,000 people, and a portable electric power plant. There would be a free street caravan, or parade at 10 a.m. The three musical bands included Buffalo Bill's Cowboy Band.

In Peterborough the general admission was 50 cents; children under nine paid 25 cents. Coupons for reserved seats were sold at Ormond & Walsh's drug store, 362 George Street. Bicycles were checked on the grounds.

This may have been the largest circus group to come to Peterborough, but circuses were by the 1890s nearly an annual, and very popular, event. Shows that competed with Buffalo Bill's show included the Oklahoma Wild West and Congress of Rough Riders Show, which was the

featured grandstand event at the Peterborough Central Exhibition, 19 September 1900.

Peterborough had an annual exhibition by 1843 and with rare exception it continued to the present. However, the idea of adding midways and grandstands did not become established features until 1900. For a few years the exhibition featured horse racing, which was dubbed "speeding in the ring" when protesters claimed that a family event should not encourage gambling.



CEMETERY TOURS

4:00 p.m. Sundays
June • July • August

\$5.00 per person
Meet at the Chapel in
Little Lake Cemetery

3 tours available
Seats of the Mighty
•
Victorian Mourning
•
Tragic Tales

TRENT VALLEY ARCHIVES
745-4404 trentvalleyarchives.com

Ghost Walks in Eerie Ashburnham

The Trent Valley Archives invite you to their third season of terror-filled walks through East City. Friday's at 9:00 during June, July and August. \$10 per person. Meet at the park by Quaker Oats – Hunter & Driscoll Terrace. Don't let your parents come alone.



745-4404 trentvalleyarchives.com



OLD BOYS OWN THE TOWN:

Visit Scenes of Former Days and are Heartily Welcomed – Special Train Brings Large Quota of Homecomers

Special Train Brings Hundreds, While Many Come by Regular CPR and GTR Trains

Peterborough Examiner, 25 July 25, 1903

How dear to the heart are the scenes of my childhood,
When fond recollection presents them to view,
The orchard, the meadow, the deep tangled wildwood,
And every loved spot which my infancy knew.

Peterborough Old Boys to the number of several hundred are today revisiting the old home, and were welcomed with the heartiness for which Peterborough is proverbial. Ever since it became known that the Old Boys away from home, were planning to return to the scenes of former days, the citizens have been arranging to make their visit a pleasing one. The organization in Toronto was of a very complete character, and the Peterborough Old Boys fell into line readily, the result being a most enthusiastic reception of the proposal to revisit the home town. About 300 at once identified themselves with new Association. A strong committee was formed composed of old residents of the town and county, and correspondence was entered into with the old boys in all parts of Canada and even the U.S.A. with the result that today visitors are here from not only Toronto and Montreal, but from Denver, California, Michigan, Assiniboia, British Columbia and all parts of Ontario. A special train came from Toronto by Port Hope, by many came in by CPR and the regular GTR trains. When the special train pulled into the GTR station, the visitors were warmly greeted by many hundreds of citizens who as they recognized a familiar form grasped the homecomer by the hand and with profuse words of welcome greeted him.

The local reception committee was on hand but its work was light as the citizens took matters into their own hands and the old boys were rapidly taken in hand by their many friends. Hon. J.R. Stratton and Mayor Roger with Ald. Rush, Ald. Edgecumbe, Ald. Shortly, Ald. McWilliams, and a number of prominent citizens formerly extended a welcome to the officers of the Association and gave them the freedom of the town.

The following is a list of the officers present – President, Mr. L. Morrison, Vice President, Mr. John Braden, Secretary, Mr. R. A. Cardwell, Treasurer, Mr. R. A. Savigny, Executive Committee, Messrs. Clarence Bell, O.B. Shortly, George McBurney, W.A. Allison, Bert. Rogers, Fred T. Weir, A.J. Gough, W. Bryce, J.H. Hall, and Dr. H. B. Anderson. Hon. President, Rev. J.C. Speer, will be in town Monday and will with the President, take part in the exercises on Monday afternoon.

Hon. George A. Cox, also an Honorary President, is unable to be present. He asked the President to express his regrets to

the friends in the home town and to the old boys, that business prevented him from participating in the pleasing functions of the homecoming.

Mr. J. W. Flavelle, the third Honorary President, also wrote to Mr. Morrison expressing his regret that he would be unable to join the Old Boys in their trip. He had just returned from a three months' visit abroad and business matters demanded his presence in the city at the present time.

About 100 of the Old Boys took the train for Lakefield and will spend Sunday on the picturesque shores of Stony Lake. The great majority however, will remain in town, the guests of friends and relatives. Tomorrow, special reference will be made in the churches to the visit of the Old Boys. The president has received an invitation from Rev. J.C. Davidson to attend the service in St. John's Church tomorrow evening, which be of an especially interesting character. On Monday an early start will be made from all over the county for a gathering in Peterborough. The exercises will be held in Victoria Park were at 2pm. Mayor Roger will act as chairman of a great home gathering meeting, the vice-chairs being taken by the Warden of the County and the President of the Old Boys Association.

The Pool Room (here, probably at the Peterborough Club) was a popular place to play billiards and pool. In this photo, Mr



Bradburn, second from left, is waiting his turn. (Trent Valley Archives, Bradburn Family fonds).

The Mayor will deliver an opening address and will introduce one of the prominent citizens, who will in an address, welcome the Old Boys home again. This will be followed by Warden Crowe, who will introduce Dr. S.P. Ford of Norwood, to speak on behalf of the County, and welcome old friends and visitors. The President of the Old Boys Association, Mr. Llewellyn A. Morrison, of Toronto, will respond, accepting the welcome and hospitality of the citizens and Rev. J.C. Spears will speak of the pleasures of home coming. An original song, "Homing" will be sung by the Old Boys, which will be followed by a band concert given by the 57th Regimental Band. The 57th Regimental Band under the direction of Mr. Glidden will play the following

selections in Victoria Park at the reception to be given the Peterborough Old Boys on Monday July 27, from 2-5pm.

The president of the association, Mr. Morrison, was born in the township of Dummer and spent his early life there, teaching school until 1868. It is a singular coincidence that Rev. J.C. Speer, Hon. President was at one time a scholar of Mr. Morrison's. The President left Dummer in the year 1869 for the United States, returning shortly afterwards to Canada, living in Toronto ever since. He has attained considerable prominence as a literaturist, and is the only living Canadian hymn writer, and has hymns published in 26 different hymn-books. A new book is now being published which will contain 30 or 40 of his compositions. A new patriotic song "Fair Canada" has also been written by him.

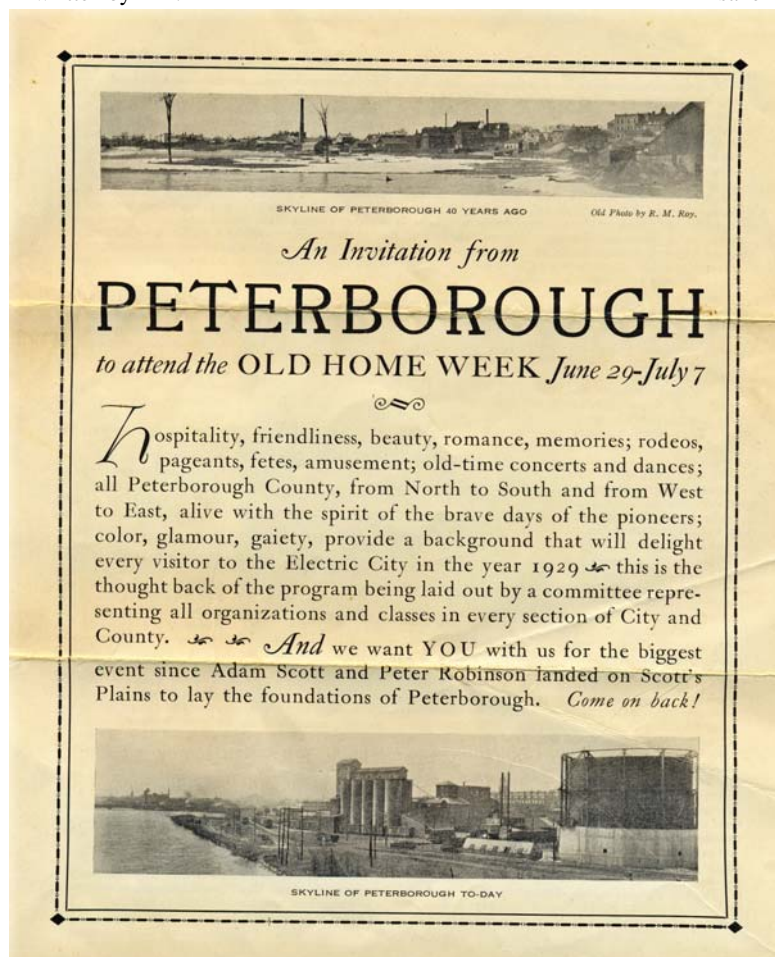
A.C. McCallum, W. White, J.C. Kemp, Chas. Rabey, M. Leplante (Toronto), John Smith (Orillia), Frank Clark (Warkworth), Mr. Armstrong (Belleville), and many others from various places. Many expressions of astonishment were made by the visitors upon the improved appearance of the town and the city-like air which it has assumed. The visitors were also favourably impressed with the decorations which were made in their honour, and many complimentary references were made on the appearance of the street and business places. A more complete list will be published in Monday's issue of the Examiner.

Welcome, thrice welcome with a "tiger" the Peterborough Old Boys. We welcome them for their own sake, and for the sake of old associations. Most of the old residents and many visitors were boys together with us, they were school mates, and the visit somewhat in a body of the old boys, revives many memories. They were school chums, and together they spent the careless happy days of boyhood, they robbed orchards together, they flirted with the pretty girls, since grown into staid heads of households, mothers with pretty girls of their own. The meeting of old friends of boyhood days will recall all these things, and delightful conversations will grow out of them, and reminisces of the happiest days that come to any man, however fortunate or successful – boyhood days.

We welcome the old boys because they have been an honour and a credit to the town. Peterborough boys are scattered far and wide over this Dominion and the neighbouring Republic. Wherever they are found they are by no means at the tail end of the procession of energetic, respected, upright and trusted citizens. Wherever they may be we don't look for the names of Peterborough boys in the records of wrong doers, but in the lists of honoured and respected citizenship of their several communities. We welcome them, because they reflect credit upon their old home. Though their voice may be silent, yet they speak eloquently in praise of Peterborough, their former native or adopted home, by their upright lives, and the trustworthy qualities exhibited in their daily work and conversation.

We welcome them because we feel that with reason, the homecomers will be as proud of Peterborough as we are of them – that they will see that Peterborough has fulfilled the promise of the days when they knew the town. They will see that we have progressed – that we are the best town in the broad Dominion today – that our commercial, manufacturing, and general material conditional has greatly improved, that our manufacturing establishments give employment

to thousands. They will see the old landmarks – the humble buildings of former days – replaced by stately structures. They will see the old playgrounds of bygone days invaded by factories and the roar of machinery replacing boyish shouts and laughter to which they contributed their happy quota. They will see twigs that many of them perhaps, had a share in planting, grown into stately trees, over-arching with leafage, streets, flanked by handsome homes amid verdant lawns glowing with flowers. They will see hundreds of places grown and improved out of recognition. They will in a word, see a live, progressive and happy town, of which they will be proud to renew for a day, their



The Peterborough Old Home Week invitation 1929 (Trent Valley Archives)

Among the visitors are many interesting characters, some who lived here when what is now a prosperous and busy city was a small country village surrounded by the pine-forest, which has long since disappeared to be replaced by busy factories and handsome residences. One of these is Mr. W. Arnott, who left here 35 years ago, Mr. Hayter who was one of the first newspaper men in the town, was Editor of the "Dispatch" and has many interesting experiences to relate to the early days in Peterborough journalism. Others who are here are: Dr. Rose,

citizenship. They will meet, we trust, everywhere the friendly outthrust of the "glad hand" – they will be made glad that they came home to the good old town, and we are sure they will feel that no matter where they have cast their lot, they have not found a dearer and better spot than Peterborough, and that nowhere do they find better all round conditions that are to be found under the institution of Canada and the flag of the Empire. Welcome to the Old Boys!

MANY HUNDREDS OF OLD PETERBOROUGH GIRLS AND BOYS VISIT THE OLD HOME

Annual reunion of the former residents of this town who are now living in Toronto – Special trains on Saturday night and this morning bring Old Boys to the New City. The Old Home decorated in their honour – Mayor Best's address of welcome to the visitors – Mr. Clarence Bell (President), replies on behalf of the Old Boys – How the day was spent

Peterborough Examiner, 7 August 1905

Today the city is in the hands of the Old Boys. They arrived on Saturday from Toronto, when the Oddfellows of that city ran an excursion to Peterborough. A train of fourteen coaches loaded with human freight left Toronto at 2pm and arrived here shortly after 6pm. They spent the Sunday visiting their friends here, and this morning were up bright and early to welcome the Old Boys who arrived this morning. About 500 of the former residents of Peterborough from Toronto came to the city this morning. They came in on a special and on the regular train at 11:40. By a misunderstanding the special train which was to leave the Union Station at 8am, pulled out at 7:15am and the result was that many who had intended to come to spend time here were unable to do so.

Two specials ran to Lindsay, with the Victoria Old Boys and a number of those, who missed the first train, came to Lindsay on one of the specials, and from there caught the regular to Peterborough. It is estimated that about 500 Old Boys and Girls returned to the city this morning to spend the days with friends and to a great many, this was their first visit since the town was made into a city. The programme as laid out for the reception of the Old Boys, was maternally curtailed because of the mix-up at the Toronto station, but which the party did not all come on one train, and instead of the parade to be in the park as was intended, this was dispersed with and the official civic welcome was extended at the station. Those who welcomed the Old Boys on behalf of the city were: His Worship Mayor Best, Ald. Leary, Ald. Adams, Hicks, Mason and Begley. The Mayor gave the following address of welcome to the Old Boys at the station:

"Ladies and gentlemen, it is with pleasure that I welcome to Peterborough on behalf of the council and the citizens of Peterborough. We are always pleased to receive visitors but when those visitors are as today, our own boys and girls who have come back, our pleasure is greatly increased. Some of you have been away for longer and some for only a shorter time, but whether long or short, you will see the changes. Time passes rapidly and always brings changes and we are glad to be able to say that the alterations have been those of advancement. Peterborough has grown, her borders have been extended, her population increased and new factories, new homes, and new business houses have been created. We know you feel an interest still in Peterborough, your presence here proves that; if any proof were needed, and you can look with satisfaction upon the signs of advancement that you will see throughout the city. In the deliberations of the council and public bodies if you listened to them, you would hear familiar subjects discussed. We are still trying to get the Trent Canal completed and we still talk of erecting new collegiate institute buildings. These things



Particular Attention

Is drawn to

The Only Social Event of Old Home Week

The Feature Dance and Frolic to be Held in the ARMOURIES

At 9:30 P. M.

Wednesday Evening, July 3

Music for this event is being supplied at great expense by the PALADIANS

Direct from the Palace Theatre, Montreal

Under Personal Direction of

JERRY SHEA, The Maestro

This party will be of 15 people including BALLET DANCERS and ENTERTAINERS

This will be the greatest social event ever held in this part of the province, and will include Gorgeous Harmonious Decorations, Gala Mardi Gras Parade, Swinging Ballet Girls, and one of Canada's outstanding Musical Organizations.

This is Your Personal Invitation

And we would suggest that you come fully prepared to enjoy this outstanding occasion to the fullest extent.

This is where we suggest you meet those of former years and those of the present, under pleasant and dignified circumstances

DRESS, OPTIONAL

will come, and with the completion of the historic waterway, we will look for further advantages. In the meantime, we will not be on our oars, and with the same enterprise and energy that our citizens have shown in the past, Peterborough will continue on the road of growth and progress.

Let me repeat that we give you a hearty welcome. We hope that your visit will be most pleasant and you will again before long give us the pleasure of welcoming you to your old home in which we all feel such a deep interest. Mr. Clarence Bells, President of the Peterborough County Old Boys Association of Toronto, made the following reply:

"Mr. Mayor, Aldermen of the City of Peterborough, Ladies and Gentlemen – On behalf of the Peterborough County Old Boys Association, no words that I can offer can in the least suggest to you our appreciation of the hearty welcome and the kind words contained in your address. While it is pleasant at all times to revisit the scenes of one's childhood and meet again old friends it is doubly so when greeted with flying banners and a band. It was most unfortunate that the railway company found it necessary to divide our group into two sections as we could have brought 600 persons to enjoy your hospitality. We note with great satisfaction the evidences on every side of the prosperity of which you speak and it was no little pride that we learned of the elevation of our status to a city. We congratulate you Mr. Mayor and aldermen on being the first executive of the new city. The mention of the Trent Valley Canal and the old Collegiate Institution recall old memories and we agree with you that someday in the near future you will inform us that both will have been completed. We will go back tonight with pleasant memories of our visit made doubly so by your reception, with an increased loyalty to the county of our birth, and with the hope that the progress of this place, great as its been, will be far outstripped by the growth and prosperity of the future."

The decorations in honour of the visiting boys and girls, though unpretentious, were very pretty and did credit to Mr. A. Kingscote by whom the work was done. In addition to the decorations placed by the city, a number of the leading business houses and hotels as well as residences, were decorated with flags and the city presented a very handsome appearance. The 57th Band, under Bandmaster Rupert Gliddon was at the station and as the trains arrived, welcomed the visitors by playing "The Boys of the Old Brigade." Many local people who had friends in Toronto and who were expected to spend the day here, were at the station to extend the glad hand to their old friends and there were many happy greetings exchanged.

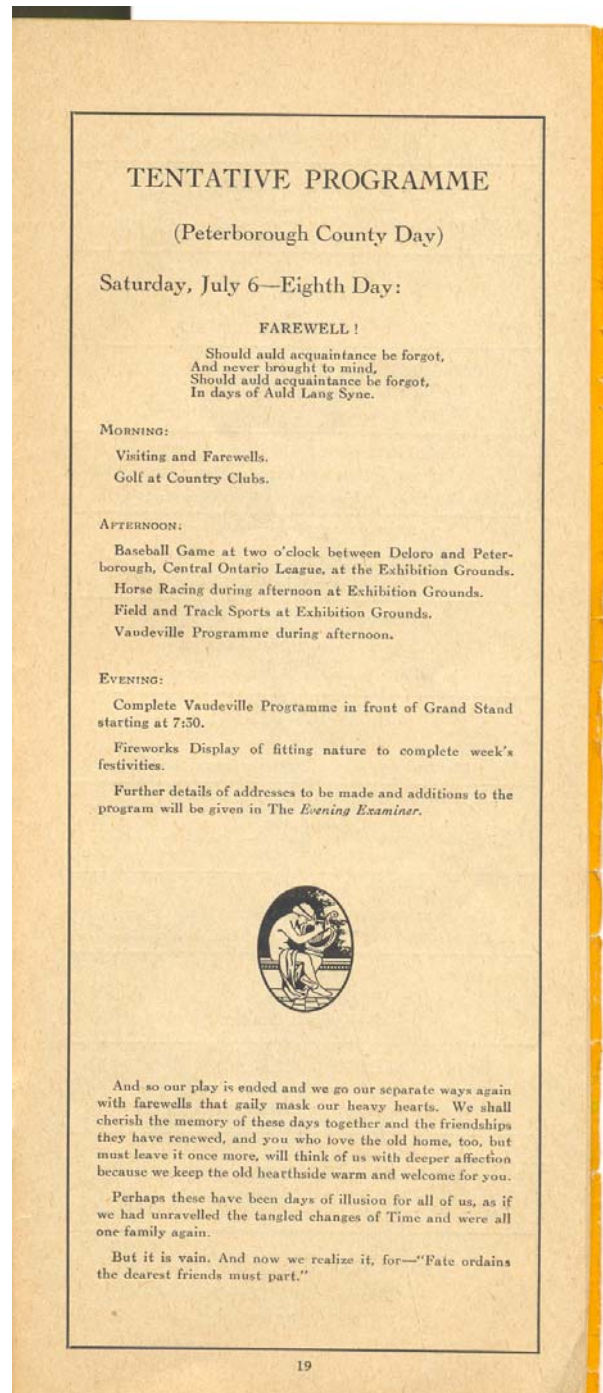
The parade to the park did not take place because there were no Old Boys to form it. As soon as they had alighted from the train they were hurried off by waiting friends and as a consequence, there was no formal parade but the streets leading from the station were lined with Old Boys and Old Girls, their arms linked with those who were welcoming them home again.

This afternoon a baseball game at the Riverside Park between the Royal Canadians of Toronto and the local senior nine is taking place. Those who did not wish to go to the ball game spend the afternoon driving around the new city and the Lift Lock was one of the most popular objective points. A great many of the visitors had never seen this massive structure before, and it was a great surprise to them to see such an immense work. Many of the visitors will remain over night but the majority will

return by the specials and regular trains tonight, the former leaving at 7:45 and 10pm.

This trip of the Old Boys, though not planned on such an elaborate scale as that of two years ago, has proved to be a most enjoyable one, and the general opinion is that the outing was by every respect a pleasant one.

The illustrations are pages from the program for the Old Boys Home Week, 1929. (Trent Valley Archives)



SOME OF THE OLD BOYS AND GIRLS WHO VISIT HERE

Evening Examiner, Monday, 7 August 1905

Mr. R. Sturgeon spent Sunday at the lake.
 Mr. Robert Fair was in Millbrook over Sunday.
 Mr. S.T. Medd spent the weekend in Millbrook.
 Miss Abbie Roinson returned from the lakes today.
 Mr. James Tully of Toronto is visiting his parents here.
 Mr. William Kindred is in town looking up old friends.
 Mrs. Dr. Wrightman went up to Stony Lake today.
 Mr. A. L. Davis of Toronto spent Sunday in the city.
 Mr. Copeland, an old Peterborough boy is in town today.
 Mr. Irvine Marks of Toronto is visiting friends in town.
 Miss Bella McDonald of Toronto is visiting friends.
 Mrs. John Cousins of Toronto is visiting friends.
 Hon. Senator Cox of Toronto was in the city over Sunday.
 Miss Griffin of Havelock was the guest of Mr. Perry Johnson.
 Mr. Snelgrove is renewing old acquaintances in town today.
 Mr. H. LeBrun spent the weekend at his cottage "Belle-Chasse"
 Miss Violet Stevens has returned from a visit with Bowmanville friends.
 Mr. Melville Robinson of Toronto is visiting friends.
 Miss L. Stephenson of Toronto is visiting Mrs. M. Connors (331 George St.)
 Mr. George Greer of Toronto is spending the day visiting relatives here.
 Mr. N.H. Ramer, Toronto artist, is the guest of Mr. A.T. Hoover.
 Mr. Willard McGuire of Toronto accompanied the old boys to the city today.
 Mr. Bruce Graham of Toronto is in the city visiting his father in the 5th ward.
 Mr. John Turcotte of Hamilton, a former employee of the Examiner is in town.
 Mr. Eldon Vandusan of New York is visiting Mr. and Mrs. Stubbs for a few days.
 Miss Olive Cawthorne of Toronto, formerly of Peterborough is visiting friends.
 Mr. Reginald McFadden of Kingston is on a two week visit to friends.
 Miss Ethel Alton of Toronto and Miss Ida McBain are down from the lakes for the day.
 Mr. Donogue, Toronto, is in the city visiting his father, Mr. Donoghue (Simcoe St.)
 Miss Hattie Lumsden, of Jersey City, is home on a visit with her mother (Division St.)
 Mrs. P.J. Shannon of Bay City Michigan and two daughters are visiting friends.
 Dr. McKercher is in London today attending the semi-centennial celebrations in that city.
 Mr. Harry McGuire of New York is home on vacation.
 Mr. J. Burjaw and family of Hamilton are visiting with Mr. T. Goselin (35 Stewart St.)
 Miss Maggie McNicholl left this morning to Rochester to recontinue her training in St. Mary's.
 Mr. and Mrs. James Heal left on Saturday.
 Mr. David Carlyle spent Sunday at Mr. Cooly's cottage.
 Mr. W.H. Meldrum went up to Stony Lake on Saturday.
 Mr. W.G. Ferguson spend Sunday at his cottage.
 Mr. William Jones of Toronto, went up to his cottage, Eagle Mount on Saturday.
 Mr. G.M. Roger came up to his cottage, Juniper Island on Saturday.
 Mr. E.H.D. Hall spent Sunday a guest of Mr. Alexander.
 Mr. H.A. Mulhern is spending a few days at Burleigh.
 Mrs. B. Herbert and Miss Herbert of Rochester are the guests of Miss Laura McFarlane, Lovesick, for a week.
 Mr. Arthur Mann returned home on Saturday after spending a two week vacation at Mr. Shortley's cottage.

Rev. J.A. Wilson has returned to his home in Hamilton after a week's stay at the lakes.
 Sheriff Paxton of Whitby, returned home today after a three week stay at "Rayburn."
 Messrs. Harry Macdonald of the Toronto World and Dr. Charles Gavellor of Fergus are camping at McCracken's Landing.
 Messrs. Horace Walker and Hague Sawers spent Sunday as guests of Mr. W.H. Meldrum.
 Mr. W. Harold Cluxton spent Sunday at the Victoria House.
 Mr. V. H. Edwards, one of the Ontario Bank Staff, his brother, Mr. E.S. Edwards and Mr. C.F. Foster of Toronto, spent Sunday as guests at the Victoria House.
 Messrs. W. L. Bravender and F.H. Kilbourn of Lakefield spent Sunday at the Victoria House.
 Messrs. W.S. Davidson of Peterborough and R.J. Dewar of Toronto, were guests at the Victoria House on Sunday.
 Messrs. Willis Garrow, Louis A. Potvin and W.J. O'Brien are guests at the Victoria House.
 Miss Olive Cullen of Toronto is spending a few days with her cousin, Mrs. Dutton of London St.
 Mr. Alan S. Bond of Winnipeg (CPR Solicitor) was the guest of Dr. Frank C. Neal
 Mr. Albert Weatherhead has gone to Wilkesbarre to attend the Total Abstinence Union Convention.
 Mrs. Frank Reid and child of Toronto are visiting at the home of Mrs E. Reid (Westcott St.)
 Mr. Fred Stair of Toronto went to the lake on Saturday night to visit his uncle Mr. Alex. Wilson
 Miss Helen Moir of St. Catharines, is in the city, the guest of Miss Mabel Harding (Bethune St.)
 Miss Clara Moore or Brantford is visiting, the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Edgar.
 Miss Josephine Sproule of Toronto accompanied by her friend, Miss Ames, is visiting friends in the city.
 Mr. Walter Phelan of Pittsburg and Mr. Charles George of Toronto are in the city.
 Miss Nellie Hall who has been visiting at Mr. Thomas Barries' cottage in Stony Lake returned this morning.
 Mr. and Mrs. F.C. Dobbin, of the Toronto Telegram, one of the Old Boys, spent the weekend in the city.
 Mr. Lawrence McGuire of New York is spending a vacation at his father's Mr. A.S. McGuire (McDonell St.)
 Rev. Dr. O'Brien left this morning for Wilkesbarre PA, to attend the annual convention of the TAU of America.
 Miss Kenneally and her sister Cecilia have returned from Rochester where they spent a pleasant two weeks vacation.
 Mrs. Thomas Lennin Sr. of Rochester, NY is visiting friends in the city, the guest of Mr.s F.J. Jameson (24 Harvey Street).
 Mr. and Mrs. W.J. Stubbs arrived in the city on Saturday evening from London to spend their holidays with their parents.
 Rev. T.C. Speer and sister Miss Speer of Toronto, are the guests of their sister Mrs. R.A. Hamilton (281 Water St.)
 A very jolly party consisting of R. Kendry, W. Weatherstone, C. Curtis, H. McMillan, and C. Wilson is camping out near Bobcaygeon.
 Mr. and Mrs. John Craft of Elwood City PA are visiting friends in the city. They will also visit Toronto and Hamilton before returning home.
 Mr. Homer Heard, formerly with the Canadian Machine Telephone Co has taken a position with the Bell Telephone Co.
 Mrs. M.E.Gould of Bowmanville and her two daughters Nellie and Ida are visiting in the city, the guest of Mrs. G.L. Stevens (George St.)
 Misses Esther and Elizabeth and Miss Ida Thomas who have been spending the last 2 weeks at the lakes, returned home today to Hamilton.
 Miss Helen Harper who has been holidaying at Cobourg on the Lake, returned home today accompanied by her cousins Misses Maud and Olive Cox of London.
 Messrs. Charles and Joseph Akey of Hamilton, two Peterborough Old Boys are in the city spending a few days visiting their sister Mrs. Charles Hopkins, North Monaghan.

Miss Mary Lowrie, who has been the guest of her friend Miss Delia Carscallen returned to her home in Kingston today accompanied by Miss Maud Carscallen.

Mr. and Mrs. A.A. Fowler left this morning for a few days visit at the Thousand Islands. While there, Mr. Fowler will attend the Grand Lodge meeting of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

Miss Rose Clark, Aberdeen Ave, Toronto, accompanied by Miss Olivia Mark, also of Toronto was in town today at the Oriental. They were home from a week's stay at the Victoria House, Stony Lake.

Another List of Former Peterboro Boys and Girls – Third Instalment of Peterborough's Sons and Daughters Who are Out in the World and Who are Making Successes of Life.

Peterborough Examiner, 8 February 1908

Mr. W.A. King is one of Western Canada's most successful farmers near Souris.

Mr. Harry Bletcher is professor in a college near Winnipeg.

Mr. Robert Thornton is in business in Norwood, Manitoba.

Miss Lena Richardson is located in Toronto.

Mr. Archie Seymour is a commercial traveller with a Toronto drygoods firm.

Mr. Edgar Eyres is a telegraph operator in a freight office in Cobalt.

Mr. Hall Roseboro is a plumber and steamfitter in Sudbury.

Mr. Omar Giroux, son of Mr. George H. Giroux, is in the Bank of Montreal staff in Tweed.

Mr. William H. McCarthy is manager of the Wiley Milling Co. in Almonte Ontario.

Mr. Frank Costello, an Ennismore boy, is a member of the Provincial Secretary's staff in Toronto.

Mr. Paul Costello (a native of Ennismore) is now at St. Michael's College, Toronto.

Mr. Harold O'Reilly of Ennismore, is a member of the staff at the Bank of Ottawa in Quebec.

Mr. Herb King, formerly of the city is now in Chicago.

Mr. Bruce McFarlane is in a hardware store in Fort William.

Dr. Dick Dawson is in Youngs Town.

Mr. Irwin Marks is in Toronto.

Mr. M.M. Robinson, son of Mr. W.S. Robinson, is assistant sporting editor on the Toronto News.

Mr. Wilbert Regan is now in Stratford.

Mr. Jack McFadden, formerly with Merrill & Meredith, is now manager of the Garden Clothing Co. in Calgary.

Mr. Bert Bradburn, a former Peterborough boy, is western representative of McCall and Bros. And he is one of Winnipeg's most successful business men.

Mr. William Forsythe and family are large and progressive farmers near Miltia, Minn.

Mr. Jack Brown, an old Peterborough Lacrosse player is with a lumber company in Seattle.

Mr. William Spence is educational superintendent for the YMCA with headquarters in Winnipeg.

Mr. T.H. Martin is with Rolin L. Crain Co. manufacturers of the Rose leaf ledgers.

Mr. Jack Alford is plumbing inspector for the City of Chicago.

Mr. Fred Lynch is a wholesale cigar manufacturer in New Westminster, B.C.

Mr. T.W. Harper is teller in the Bank of Toronto in Gannoque.

Mr. Jack Seymour is manager of the roller rink in Midland.

Mr. William Bradburn is in business in Edmonton.

Mr. Emmett Doherty is a clerk in a clothing store in Fort William.

Mr. G.E. Whiten is proprietor of a photo studio in Kenora.

Mr. Ed. Trollope is now in Brandon, Manitoba.

Mr. Chester Kemp is a druggist in Edmonton.

Mr. Charles Whiten is a traveller for a jewellery firm in Winnipeg.

Mr. Alfred Kemp is plumbing inspector for the City of Edmonton.

Mr. W. Metheral is employed with _____ in Rochester.

Mr. Jack Rose is connected with a printing office in Vancouver.

Mr. Lawrence McGuire, formerly of this city, is a successful telegraph operator in New York.

Mr. Roy Wilson, formerly of Otonabee is employed in a large telegraph exchange office in New York.

Mr. George Buchanon is a merchant in Pittsburg PA.

Mr. Stanley Alford is in a hardware store in Chatham.

Mr. Harry Roberts is a canoe builder in Hamilton.

Mr. Thomas Duncan, formerly of this city is now a machinist in Dundas.

Miss Lena Condon is in Toronto.

Messrs. Fred G. Roberts and Arthur F. Hetherington are engaged in the painting, paperhanging and decorating business in Toronto and are making a great success.

Mr. Harry Roper is a commission merchant in Montreal.

Mr. John Hawkins is freight inspector for the GTR in Montreal.

Mr. Walter Cottingham is general manager of the Sherwin Williams Paint Co. Cleveland.

Mr. Thomas Hamilton is president of the Canada Oil Co. Toronto

Mr. J.E. Hutchins, formerly of Robert Fair & Co. is connected with a white wear company in Toronto.

Boys and Girls Out in the World

Peterborough Examiner, 15 February 1908

Mr. Bert S. Stewart is in Bienfait Saskatchewan and is doing well.

Mr. Clarence Staunton is an electrician in Pasadena California.

Mr. Melville Jamieson is a telephone operator in Windsor.

Mr. Wilfrid Staunton is in Los Angeles, where he is an electrician.

Miss Maria Gibson is a saleslady in a large store in Vancouver.

Mr. W. Davidson is assistant superintendent in a steel manufacturing establishment in Lechburg PA.

Rev. Alex Elliott is a pastor of a Methodist Church at Belle Plains, Manitoba.

Mr. William Kent is an engineer on the CPR in Calgary.

Mr. William Lytle is superintendent of construction work for the Canadian Machine Telephone Co. now operating in Lindsay.

Mr. William Elliott is a commercial traveller with headquarters in Brandon.

Dr. Charles Stone, an old Peterborough boy, is practising medicine in Minnesota.

Mr. Roy Stone is proprietor of a large ranch in Alberta.

Mr. William Bell is chief clerk of the Construction Department of Cleveland Telephone Company in Cleveland.

Mr. Joseph J. Goselin Jr. has secured a position with the Carson Harness Co. in Ottawa.

Mr. Peter Gillespie of Otonabee is with the Carson Harness Co. in Ottawa.

Mr. Joseph Doherty of Percy township who was educated at the Peterborough Business College has secured a position at Buffalo NY as freight inspector.

Mr. Frank Doherty of Percy Township has secured a position as telegraph operator in Buffalo NY.

Mr. J. P. O'Neill has secured a position in Rochester.

Mr. M.J. McDonnell of Smith and formerly principal of St. Peter's School is now engaged in a successful wholesale produce business in Toronto.

Mr. G.G. Pratley is book-keeper for Victor Manufacturing Company in Clinton Massachusetts. He was formerly engaged with Davis & Thompson's Insurance Company.

Local Soldiers Who Died At Vimy Ridge

Elwood Jones with help from David Edgerton

This list is based on the records kept by F. H. Dobbin. Dobbin's records are in the Peterborough Public Library. F. H. Dobbin was a distinguished Peterborough historian whose career was defined by journalism. After retirement he continued to write history stories, and was an alderman. He helped find housing for soldier resettlement, and was a key player in the best-run Old Boys' Home Week, when former Peterburians returned for a week of activity at the end of June.

This list was created by David Edgerton using Dobbin's information. We have corrected the list that appeared in the Peterborough Examiner, 9 April 2007 and have added specific information about their home, age at death; date of death; and the soldier's unit at the time of death. Most of these soldiers joined up with the 93rd Regiment, but some joined in the west and elsewhere but still identified with Peterborough, perhaps because their next of kin was there.



Canadian Corps troops marching German prisoners through a French town following the fighting at Vimy Ridge, April 1917. This photo is part of a very impressive photo album at the Trent Valley Archives. It contains about 500 photos, all professional black and white 8x10 contact prints most with caption lines that were expected to be used by newspapers using the prints. The prints were distributed by a military photo service. Our album was donated by Bruce W. Hodgins, a Trent University history professor long identified with a camp, Wanapitei, on Lake Temagami. The album appears to have been kept by Ed Archibald who served with the YMCA during World War I. The album traces Canadian troops on the Western front.

Making lists always means making decisions. While many consider the Canadian Corps victory came in the four-day battle from 9 to 13 April 1917, several soldiers died at Vimy Ridge before that engagement. Parliament designated 9 April as the official remembrance date for Vimy only in 2003. Also some died after the battle. This list only shows those whose death was linked to Vimy

Ridge, and who died in 1917. During the Battle of Vimy Ridge, 9 to 13 April 1917, 3,600 Canadians were killed and 7,000 were injured.

Private Charles Henry Naish, for example, died at Vimy Ridge on 15 September 1916. He was from 336 Mark Street, Peterborough and was with the Central Ontario Regiment, 20th Battalion.

The Wall of Honour committee has been tracking down this kind of information for every soldier from Peterborough, and for all wars. The stories of those who survived war are also stories of heroism and dedication. Congratulations to David Edgerton and his friends who have spent hours gathering such useful information. At some point we hope the information will be published, and all the names will appear on a Peterborough Wall of Honour.

Sergeant-Major George William Allen (born 1880), a veteran of the Boer War (South African Campaign), and a joiner by trade, enlisted in the 24th Battery from his Peterborough home in September 1914. He was with the 15th Battery, 6th Brigade of the Canadian Field Artillery when he won the Military Cross for his "coolness, determination and gallantry under heavy shell fire" at the Battle of Vimy Ridge. He had been wounded at Ypres but returned to ranks at Vimy in March 1917. After Vimy he was also impressive at Passchendaele where he kept his Battery supplied with ammunition in areas harassed by enemy shelling.

We have not used all the data that David had gathered. Even so, there are some useful observations. Those 46 soldiers from Peterborough who died at Vimy Ridge in 1917 are a cross-section of the soldiers. We can see the diversity of their homes, and the split between town and county seems to match the total volunteers. The soldiers are older than expected. There are some as young as 18, but they seem balanced by those over 35; the oldest in this group with Private William Methers at age 45. Having often heard that young officers had a life-expectancy in battle of 17 minutes, I was surprised to see only two officers on this list. True to form, though, the wily senior NCOs (sergeants, etc) did not make this list. The average age of those who died, and for the 35 soldiers for which we have an age, is 26.6 years; the median age was 25.

Pte	Althouse	John Sherwood	Havelock	23	3 May 1917	Western Ontario Regiment	1
Pte	Anderson	Robert	Peterborough & Hiawatha	23	30 Dec 1917	Manitoba Regiment	52
Pte	Armstrong	Francis Edward	Lakefield & Dummer Sk	35	3 June 1917	Saskatchewan Regiment	
Pte	Ashman	John Charles	Port Hope		9 Apr 1917	Eastern Ontario Regiment	
Pte	Baker	Herbert Frank			9 Apr 1917	Western Ontario Regiment	1
Pte	Batten	William Richard	Warsaw	32	9 Apr 1917	Quebec Regiment	13
Pte	Beaver	Austin H	Chemong Indian Village		22 Feb 1917	Western Ontario Regiment	18
Pte	Beckett	Louis Gordon	Norwood	29	9 Apr 1917	Quebec Regiment	87
Pte	Bennett	Cecil	Mount Pleasant		9 Apr 1917	Central Ontario Regiment	20
Pte	Billington	William George	Peterborough	20	5 May 1917	Central Ontario Regiment	4 CMR
Pte	Bouskill	Victor Malcolm	Peterborough	22	28 Mar 1917	Manitoba Regiment	8
L/C	Brackenbridge	Maxwell	Westwood		10 Apr 1917	93rd Regiment	
Pte	Carruthers	William J	Peterborough	20	11 Apr 1917	Central Ontario Regiment	75
Pte	Cater	Benjamin A	Alexandria House	25	10 Apr 1917	Manitoba Regiment	27
Pte	Coones	Thomas	Apsley		9 Apr 1917	Western Ontario Regiment	
Pte	Cooper	Percy Thos Wm	Warsaw	20	9 Apr 1917	Central Ontario Regiment	75
Pte	Dickson	Douglas	Norwood	33	14 Apr 1917	Western Ontario Regiment	47
Pte	Ecobichon	Sidney John	Peterborough	20	18 Apr 1917	Central Ontario Regiment	15
Pte	Finley	Norman	Peterborough	39	7 May 1917	93rd Regiment	
Pte	Godfrey	William F	Peterborough		3 Sep 1917	Manitoba Regiment	52
Pte	Guest	Henry Edward	Lindsay	20	4 May 1917	Eastern Ontario Regiment	2
Pte	Hawkins	Robert B	Baillieboro	31	9 Apr 1917	Central Ontario Regiment	
Pte	Heard	William H	Peterborough		1 Mar 1917	Central Ontario Regiment	75
Pte	Heffernan	William	Peterborough	32	4 May 1917	Eastern Ontario Regiment	2
Lt	Hill	Harold	Peterborough	22	9 Apr 1917	Eastern Ontario Regiment	38
Pte	Jones	Benjamin H	Apsley		12 Apr 1917	Central Ontario Regiment	4
Pte	Ligon	Sidney Frederick	Peterborough	18	3 May 1917	Eastern Ontario Regiment	2
Pte	Mallory	Wilbert John	Peterborough	40	19 Jan 1917	93rd Regiment	
Pte	McCauley	Roy	Apsley	19	26 Apr 1917	Western Ontario Regiment	1
Pte	McCusker	Charles Hugh	Peterborough	21	9 Apr 1917	Quebec Regiment	87
Pte	McDonnel	Michael	Ennismore		9 Apr 1917	93rd Regiment	
L/C	McGregor	John	Witchcock Sask	21	12 Apr 1917	Quebec Regiment	5 CMR
Pte	McNaughton	George W	Peterborough	28	12 Feb 1917	93rd Regiment	
Pte	Methers	William	Peterborough & Ottawa	45	2 Mar 1917	93rd Regiment	
Lt	Milburn	George Noble	Peterborough	32	5 Apr 1917	Western Ontario Regiment	1
Pte	Milligan	Charles Bruce	Havelock	26	9 Apr 1917	Central Ontario Regiment	
Pte	Milligan	Edward Thomas	Havelock	28	10 Apr 1917	Central Ontario Regiment	
Pte	Morrow	Orland James	Peterborough	18	26 Oct 1917	Central Ontario Regiment	58
Pte	Orde	Frederick Henry	Peterborough	23	9 Apr 1917	Quebec Regiment	5 CMR
Pte	Parker	Thomas	Hastings	23	13 Apr 1917	Western Ontario Regiment	18
Pte	Peace	Walter	Crawford Grove	40	12 Apr 1917	Western Ontario Regiment	1
Pte	Peters	Corey	Union Creek	26	3 May 1917	Central Ontario Regiment	
Pte	Post	Warren Tice	Glen Alda & Coe Hill	28	9 May 1917	Western Ontario Regiment	1
Pte	Rowberry	George William	Nelson Lancs England	26	6 Sep 1917	Quebec Regiment	5 CMR
Pte	Rowe	James Howard	Lakefield		6 Apr 1917	Quebec Regiment	5 CMR
Pte	Simpson	Frank	Glen Alda		5 Apr 1917	Western Ontario Regiment	1
Pte	Storey	Albert Daniel	Peterborough	22	3 May 1917	Central Ontario Regiment	

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The rededication of the Vimy Memorial, the master work of Walter Allward who designed the Peterborough war memorial, occurred 9 April 2007. Thousands were on hand for the occasion, and CBC-TV beamed the ceremony into Canadian homes. Queen Elizabeth's speech was excellent. She linked the importance of Vimy to our retrospective view. In hindsight we knew that something remarkable had happened. Our soldiers had fought together in the Canadian Corps and had accomplished an amazing feat, capturing the main military objective on the western front.

One of the treasures at the Trent Valley Archives is a huge album containing some 500 press photographs, 8" x 10", capturing seemingly all aspects of the Canadian experience on the Western Front. This seemed the occasion to unveil some of those photographs. The album was the gift of Professor Bruce W. Hodgins, and the provenance traces back to Ed Archibald who served on this front with the YMCA. The photographs are of exceptional quality and we have some excellent volunteers working on creating the finding aid. It will be some time before we can open the whole collection. Our thanks go to Christopher Manoukian, John Lees, Don Willcock and others who have been so helpful on this project.

“A Local Lad Remembered”: Victor “Lloyd” Clemett

Gina Martin, April 2007

On the evening of 21 February 2007, 107 year old Victor “Lloyd” Clemett passed away quietly in the veteran's wing of Toronto's Sunnybrook Hospital, his family at his side. At a glance, most of his life seemed rather ordinary. He grew up in small town Ontario, worked at odd jobs, lived much of his life in a modest home and supported his family while selling lawn mowers and reading meters. Yet, the passing of this ordinary man prompted Prime Minister Stephen Harper to comment to national media, “As a nation, we honour his service and mourn his passing”. What made Lloyd Clemett unique among the ordinary is that he was one of the last three surviving Canadian veterans of World War I. Although just a teenager at the time, his war service became more notable with each passing year as his advancing age made it apparent that he would be among the last of his comrades. But what is seldom mentioned about Lloyd Clemett is that he was a local boy. Although his adult life was spent in Toronto, his youth was spent in nearby Omemee and he signed up for service in Peterborough as part of the 93rd Battalion.

Victor “Lloyd” Clemett was born in Toronto on 10 December 1899, the sixth of seven children born to James Clemett and his wife Agnes Howell. Although born in England, his parents were both raised in Omemee and married in nearby Lindsay in 1888. Shortly after their marriage, they moved to a home at 65 Dagmar Street in Toronto where all the children were born. The eldest, James Clemett Jr., was born in 1890 followed by John Edward in 1892, William Norman in 1894, Agnes Myrtle

in 1895, Albert in 1896, Lloyd in 1899 and Florence Agnes in 1905. But tragedy struck when young Lloyd was just five years old. His mother died of a high fever on June 10, 1905, just one week after the birth of his sister Florence. The family was grief stricken again less than two years later with the sudden death of their father. The six children (brother William Norman died at age 2 in 1896) then moved to a house on Queen Street in Omemee where they lived with an older cousin, Frederick George Clemett and his wife Isabella, along with their four children.

In Omemee the family lived a relatively normal life. They attended school and helped at home. At the age of 8, Lloyd got his first part time job picking potatoes on a local farm for which

he received the princely sum of 50 cents per day. The following year, he began working at a creamery where he spent his days wrapping pounds of butter. He worked at the creamery on and off until the age of 13 when he decided that a raise in pay was in order. He secured a higher wage at the local butcher shop in Omemee and worked there until 1915 when he left home and moved to Peterborough.

His move to Peterborough was not exactly his choice. When war broke out in 1914, his three older brothers all signed up and his brother Albert was immediately sent to England. James and John remained in Lindsay where they waited for deployment. Lloyd fully intended to sign up but was promptly told by the rest of the family that he was too young and that he was to go to Peterborough to enrol in high school. This he reluctantly did but, as he commented in a 2002 interview with the Toronto Star, “I left after two weeks when I decided I knew more than the teacher did.” He then gained full time employment at the Auburn Woollen Mill while boarding in a house at 154 Edinburgh Street. But his resolve to follow his brothers strengthened each day as Peterborough newspapers brought daily news of the war, further wetting his appetite for adventure. Finally a recruiting officer came through the woollen mill asking for any volunteers to join a meeting that night at the armoury. With an invitation so tough to resist, 16 year old Victor Lloyd Clemett signed up for duty on January 31, 1916. Of course he lied about his age, passing himself off to the recruiting office as a mature 17 year old. But Lloyd finally felt as though he was off on his road to adventure.

His time with Peterborough's 93rd was short. Within a few weeks he found out that the Lindsay battalion was commanded by a former family friend from Omemee who told him that if he transferred to the 109th where his brothers had originally signed up, he would likely be sent overseas with them. Lloyd jumped at the chance and the transfer was official in February 1916.

After six months of basic training in Canada, Lloyd and his brothers finally left for England on the same troop ship. Within a few short weeks on English soil, German activity prompted the Commanding Officer to ask for any and all volunteers to go the front. Lloyd immediately volunteered but, when his age was finally discovered, he was sent to a youth brigade. This made him very unhappy, especially since his brothers were now being sent to France. But, within a year, the Clemett boys would again be reunited.

In 1917, the Canadian government raised the Canadian Forestry Corps, responsible for gathering timber for war supplies such as railroad ties and wagons to be used to transfer men and supplies to the front lines. James and John Clemett soon joined

this corps and went to France leaving Lloyd the only one of the brothers still in England. But during World War I an older brother who was serving could claim a younger one and have some say as to where they were sent. James Clemett wrote a letter to the Colonel of the youth brigade where Lloyd was serving and asked that he be sent to France to join his brothers in the forestry unit. Lloyd immediately accepted and, within two weeks, he was in France as part of the Canadian Forestry Corps.



Lloyd Clemett (Courtesy Peterborough Wall of Honour)

Due to his youth, Lloyd became a bugler for the forestry corps and, as such, would bugle the men awake in the morning and to bed at night. He would also bugle when meals were ready. Happily, the bugle that he played all those decades ago remains in the family and Lloyd's son recently commented that one of his fondest family memories is of his dad playing Auld Lang Sine on the bugle every New Year's Eve followed by a perfect rendition of the tune he played for the forestry corps every morning at 5:00AM.

In late 1918, the Germans were making a real push and twenty men from the forestry corps were asked to volunteer for duty at the front. Lloyd immediately volunteered and, since he was now of age, his brothers could not stop him. The tables were finally turned. Lloyd Clemett was now off to the front lines while his older brothers stayed behind. He went first to a waiting camp where his unit began building a barracks large enough to hold 30,000 men. On the very day he began marching

to the front, Lloyd's dreams of seeing action were dashed for good. As they marched, a dispatch rider came by with the news that the war was over. The date was November 11, 1918 and the Armistice had just been signed bringing the official end of the First World War. Six months later, the Clemett boys arrived home in Canada with only brother Albert having seen any action. Although he was shot in the head, Albert made a full recovery and went on to live a long life passing away in 1992 at age 96.

Arriving home in July 1919, Lloyd Clemett became a typical reveller in that time now known as The Roaring Twenties. An avid hockey fan all of his life, he proved to be a fine athlete as he played several years for the Brampton Maple Leafs and boasted several championships. He bought his first car and drove across North America to California where he stayed for a time enjoying the sunshine. He loved California but his Canadian roots made it impossible for him to stay. Undoubtedly he was neither the first nor the last Canadian to be lured home from finer climates because he missed the hockey rink! He was dismayed to learn that he could not follow his Toronto hockey teams from California.

Once back in Canada, he realized that it was time to settle down. He had always hoped to be a land surveyor but his lack of education made that impossible. When he found out that the Canadian government offered training courses to war veterans he immediately looked into his options. He and his brothers began training in the telegraph and railroad industries and took jobs with the Canadian Pacific Railway. Lloyd worked with the CPR until the financial difficulties of the Great Depression made that impossible.

In 1936, Lloyd met and married his wife Catherine and they moved to Toronto's Danforth area. Sons John and David were born and the family moved to a house on Millwood Road in Leaside where Lloyd remained living until moving to Sunnybrook in 2004. He and his brother-in-law opened a lawn mower business but shut it down after a few years. He finally secured employment with the City of Toronto and worked as a meter reader until his retirement in 1968. Summers were spent at the family cottage at Lake Huron, a tradition he enjoyed until just last year. He drove a car until he was 90 years old and only moved to Sunnybrook when his eyes began failing.

Around the time of his 90th birthday, Lloyd Clemett began acquiring notoriety as one of Canada's oldest remaining World War I veterans and was often the subject of interviews and newspaper articles. A recipient of the French Legion of Honour medal and later the Queen's Jubilee medal, he gladly accepted the interviews even after noticing that the media would often lose interest in his story after finding out that he never saw action. Sometimes they would cut him out of their report altogether or reduce the mention of his name to just a few lines. Other times they would over dramatize and embellish his story to make him more of a "hero". On one occasion he found this to be especially upsetting as a major news station reported that his brother Albert received his head wound while carrying Lloyd to safety from a battlefield in France. Lloyd Clemett did not like this kind of deception. He always said that he may not have seen any action but he didn't sit over there "twiddling my thumbs" either. And his family was quick to point out the day after his funeral that there is no need to embellish his story. A barely 16 year old boy from Omemee who ventured off to Europe hoping

to face war square on was pretty much both an exciting and heroic gesture.

Did he ever return to Omeme? There were occasions. His cousins and the families of both his father and mother remained in the area so there were visits. His grandparents were buried in Omeme as were a number of other family members. But even though the vast majority of his life was spent in Toronto, Victor "Lloyd" Clemett's road to notoriety began here. There was the house on Queen Street in Omeme, the creamery and the butcher shop where he worked as a boy and the woollen mill in Peterborough. Finally, there was the recruiting rally at the Peterborough Armoury where he signed up for adventure and unknowingly secured his place in Canadian history. He may not have made it to the front lines but this local boy still managed to leave his mark. And there is nothing ordinary about that.

Vimy Ridge at 90 and Allward's Vimy Ridge Memorial at 70

There has been quite a bit of media coverage related to the ceremonies in France to mark the 90th anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge. When Walter Allward (1875-1955), a Toronto-based sculptor, was commissioned in 1925 to design and execute the Vimy Ridge Memorial he was already at work on the memorial that would crown Peterborough's Confederation Park (as it would be named in 1927 to celebrate the 60th anniversary of Confederation). This is not widely known outside Peterborough and the national papers made no connections to the local scene. Happily, the *Examiner* did a story and they talked to Dave Edgerton and to the Kim Reid at the Peterborough

Centennial Museum and Archives. They have two blueprints of the Confederation Park project: one is a layout, and the other is a perspective view from the side. I have seen many drawings by Walter Allward in the archives of Queen's University and the Archives of Ontario. I believe there are some at the Library and Archives of Canada and at the Canadian War Museum. Allward was the outstanding monument sculptor of his generation. To complete the Peterborough project, Allward called on his friend Gilbert Bayes.

Among the books dealing with aspects of Canada's coming of age in 1917 we note Rae B. Fleming's new book on the Frost Brothers, and Ted Barris, *Victory at Vimy, Canada Comes of Age, April 9-12, 1917* (Thomas Allen, 2007).

The Trent Valley Archives has an exceptionally fine album showing scenes of Canadians on the Western Front, 1917-1918.

General Sir Arthur Currie unveiled the war memorial at Confederation Park during Old Boys Home Week, 30 June 1929. The names were placed on bronze plaques in the 1970s. The names of those who died fighting in the two World Wars and the Korean War were included; respectively 630, 283 and 5.

[See Rachel Punch, "Monumental Challenge," *Peterborough Examiner*, 7 April 2007.]

Queries

Diane Robnik



Alma Dorfman

It is with deepest sorrow that we announce the passing of Alma Dorfman. Alma was one of our essential volunteers. We could always count on her whenever an event called for food. She was a terrific support to her husband, Andre Dorfman, and to Susan Kyle and Art Dainton, who are also key volunteers at the Trent Valley Archives. On behalf of our members we extend our deepest sympathy to the family.

Alma had suffered a stroke in December, but we all expected that with her doggedness she would recover. She died in the Peterborough Regional Hospital (Civic Hospital) on 26 February 2007. She was survived by Andre, Susan, and also by her son Tim and his family; and her sister Jeanne (John McNeil). She was predeceased by her parents Clarwin and Helen (nee Bowen) Cherry. The funeral arrangements were handled by Hendren Funeral Home, and donations or condolences can be sent through www.hendersonfuneralhome.com.

Thanks to the family for suggesting donations could be made to Trent Valley Archives.

A private funeral service was held, with interment at Lakefield Cemetery. **A memorial reception to the memory of the late Alma Dorfman will be held at the Upper Stoney Lake Pavillion at Crowe's Landing, Saturday, 2 June 2007 at 1 pm.**



The Trent Valley Archives has some archival fonds that relate directly to Alma. We have papers of the Cherry family, of the Upper Stoney Lake Cottagers Association and of the Wantasa Inn. As a tribute to Alma we are sharing the following items which we associate with her. Above, we have a photo of Killarney Cottage on Upper Stoney Lake. When they lived there Alma and Andre called it "Dilligaf". The first is a picture of the Hunters holding a string of fish, probably caught by people staying at Wantasa Inn, which was run by Alma's family for many years. The last two images present both sides of a brochure promoting Wantasa Inn. These seemed doubly compelling images as the cottage season is about to begin.

We will long remember Alma and the pleasant way that she lit up every room she entered.

See you 2 June!

We browsed through the visitors' registers for Wantasa Inn and thought how many memories Alma could have recalled. The visitors wrote in the book, and so some entries are easier to read. One page for August 1943, for example, contains the names of visitors from Shelby, Akron, Cleveland and Yo, Ohio; Toronto, Hamilton, Belleville, Oshawa and Ottawa; Pennsylvania; and Washington DC. Many of these families would have been annual visitors to Wantasa. We see names such as Koontz, Beckman, Durbin, Hire, Watts, Williams, Symes, Yeo, Mather and Cleverly that all would have evoked warm images for Alma. And they would for others too. The account books were separate from this register, but the register did encourage visitors to record the make and license number of their car, and to total the number of people in their party. In that month, about two-thirds came by car and they were driving Chevrolets, Chryslers, Dodges, and there was one Hudson, one Ford, and one Buick.

Ogilvy

Member seeks information on the pre- and post-emigration Ogilvy / Ogilvie family which emigrated from Scotland and may have settled in what became Ontario county by the 1820s, known to have been in the areas from Little Britain to Newmarket.. In particular, member seeks information on Hugh Ogilvie / Ogilvy who married Clarissa Winch, who was born in USA c. 1801.

Benson

Looking for records relating to Dr. Edward Benson (b.22 April 1843) and Anna Campbell (b.1845) of Peterborough. His father was Col. John Robinson Benson and Catherine Lee. His uncle may have been Thomas Benson (1804-1857), the first mayor of Peterborough. Their parents were James Benson and Ann Robinson.

Brown

Frank (Francis) Brown married Mary Ann Rowe (nee Bunn) sometime between 1915 when her husband William Thomas Rowe enlisted in the military and 1949 when she died. I cannot find a death listing for William who was born in 1887 and wonder if he was killed in the war (no proof) leaving her a widow to remarry. Mary Ann lived in Smith Township at time of the 1911 Census. Both Frank Brown and Mary Ann (born in Birmingham) were Barnardo children. We found Frank's papers but cannot find Mary Ann Bunn. In 1911 she listed her immigration as 1901, and she would have been 13. The 1901 Census shows her in a Barnardo Home in Ilford, Essex. Both Frank and Mary are buried in Little Lake Cemetery. Any assistance would be helpful.

Morrison

I believe you already have my great grandfather, Alexander Morrison (Born about 1841) in your database, but I found out that his uncle James Morrison came to Peterborough in 1856. He later moved to Smith Twp, then Verulam twp and finally Kinmount, ON. Besides his death notice, do you have information on him or his brother John who also came over at some time before 1881?

WANTASA INN RATES

McCracken's Landing, Stoney Lake, Ont.

MAIN BUILDING

Weekly, per person	\$42.00
Daily, per person	6.50
LOG CABIN ROOMS—Hot and cold running water, electrically lighted, innerspring mattresses, bathroom adjoining.	
Single and double rooms—	
Weekly, per person	\$42.00
Daily, per person	6.50

LOG CABINS

Having two double rooms, fully equipped, private bathroom, hot and cold running water and electrically lighted. Innerspring mattresses.

Weekly, per person	\$42.00
Daily, per person	7.00

LOG CABINS—Same as above with closed in screened verandah.

Weekly, per person	\$48.00 - \$50.00
Daily, per person	7.00 - 8.00
Children under 10 years of age — ½ Rate	

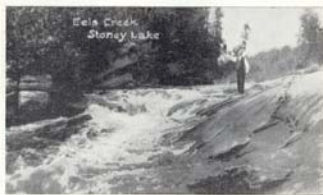


Stoney Lake, "The Gem of the Kawarthas"

DISTANCES

Toronto to Peterborough	70 miles
Peterborough to Lakefield	10 miles
Lakefield to McCracken's Landing	12 miles

Paved Highway from Toronto to Lakefield. Also paved road from Lakefield, except last mile—follow signs.



Wantasa Inn



McCracken's Landing
STONEY LAKE, ONTARIO

Reservations . . .

C. CHERRY, Lakefield, Ont.
or Phone Warsaw 273W2
Lakefield 652-3315

Welcome to Stoney Lake - - in the Heart of the Kawarthas



Kawartha, in the Red Man's language, means "Bright Waters and Happy Lands."

The Kawartha Lakes constitute one of the most enticing and thoroughly delightful summer playgrounds in all Ontario and their main feature is their nearness to the big cities.

At McCracken's Landing, on scenic Stoney Lake, "The Gem of the Kawarthas", Wantasa Inn is located with its restful accommodations.

To the summer traveller, Wantasa Inn offers every attraction, being so convenient, yet at the same time surrounded by the quiet, rugged beauty that is missed in the hustle and bustle of the city. Wantasa Inn, community summer resort has these features and more! Only three hours from Toronto — good roads — excellent fishing — swim-

A Pleasant Holiday - - at Wantasa Inn

ming (safe sandy beach for kiddies) — boating — shore dinners and hiking in a land rich with Indian lore.

COMFORTABLE ACCOMMODATION

Wantasa Inn consists of a main lodge and several individual log cabins. Each cabin is fully modern, being electrically lighted and is equipped with hot and cold running water — comfortable beds. A rustic tea house pavilion overlooks the lake, providing an excellent gathering place for games, ping pong, dancing.

BOATING & FISHING

Motors, boats and guides are always available, like-wise bait, to the many disciples of Isaac Walton in quest of Bass, Pickerel and "Muskie" with which the lake abounds. This is a pastime that is fun for everyone.



Meals and Recreation - - for Real Enjoyment



Of the many recreations afforded a guest of Wantasa Inn, the most popular with young and old are the "Shore Dinners". These are conducted by the management and many points of interest are visited. After a long day under sunny skies and fragrant spruce, dinner, cooked by an expert woodsman over an open fire, is a fitting climax.

Lest we forget, special mention should be made here of our very excellent table, which includes at all times, an abundant supply of rich milk, and cream, fresh fruits, garden vegetables and greens of selected variety.

Golfing facilities (18 holes) are available at the Peterborough Country Club, one-half hour from Wantasa Inn — (22 mile drive.)

Tennis, Ping Pong, Shuffle Board, Lawn Croquet, Badminton, Good Swimming — Enlarged Sandy Beach.

Ray's School - S.S. #6

Member is looking for any photos of Ray's School at the corner of the old 507 and Lakefield/Bridgenorth before it closed.

Peterborough Custom House

Further to the article on the new Customs House, appearing in the last Heritage Gazette, we add this interesting comment. It appeared in the *Peterborough Review*, 23 February 1855, and cited the *Peterborough Despatch* as the source for the story. *It may not be generally known that a Custom House has been established in Peterboro, thus giving our Merchants an opportunity of paying their duties in Town, without having their goods delayed at the front. This is a boon that has been much needed, and cannot fail to be appreciated by all having business with the Customs Department. Thos. Fortye, Esq., is the Collector for Peterboro, and a better appointment could not be made, as from that gentleman's known business habits, and obliging disposition, we feel certain that he will give satisfaction. His office is in Mr. Perry's brick building.*

The First Marble Monument Moved to Little Lake Cemetery

Peterborough Examiner, 29 June 1891

Mr. Thomas Telford has furnished the Examiner the following - On Decoration Day, I, along with many others, paid a visit to the last resting place of friends and acquaintances, some of whom, although long ago they took the last look on all things earthly, are still cherished in fond and loving hearts. Taking a walk among the silent homes, admiring their beauty, if one can feel pleased amongst the receptacles of the departed I again, once more, as is my wont, paid a visit to the grave of one who nearly 61 years ago met a sudden and unexpected death. The monument referred to, in going up the hall at the main entrance to the cemetery and turning to the right is seen on the left hand side of the road going south-east, and bears the following inscription, "Sacred to the memory of John Brown, Whitrigg Hall, near Cumberland England who was accidentally drowned in the Otonabee River, September the 5th, 1830 in his 37th year of age. Consulting my book, I find on the 25th of October 1853, I removed this monument, through instructions by W.S. Conger, sheriff from the George Street old burial ground and placed it where it now stands, being the first tombstone in marble erected in the Little Lake Cemetery. But alas, how many visible mementoes of the dead silently though none the less solemnly say to one and all, "Be ye also ready."

Afterthought

Kryn Vandermeijer and I looked at the spot where John Brown is buried. The spot is now marked by a large cedar tree one grave away. Close by are markers to the families of Frederick Ferguson and the Rev R. J. C. Taylor. The next of kin is given as John Hall, who was the owner of the government mill where John Brown died in an accident. The marble marker may be laying flat beneath the sod that has overgrown. Still the newspaper story is a thoughtful one. It reminds us that there were marble monuments in the old burying ground, and that some were transferred.

Mullane/Mullins

Details: 1825 Peter Robinson settlers, Michael & Catharine Mullane/Mullins and children: Maurice, William, Michael, Thomas, Mary & Denis* (my direct line). Maurice died 1838, William died 1835--looking for any family they may have left behind, Michael married twice, 1) Bridget Leahy of Smith twp, 2) Anne Murphy, haven't found where Michael is buried, suspect at St Marys, Young's Point with Bridget. Ann is buried alone in St. Paul's RC. Found John Mullins and trying to figure who he is and to whom related. (wife Johanna Galiher, 2 ch: John and Mary.) Two female Mullins, Mary and Catharine, married into the Ayotte family..... think Mary was John and Johanna's daughter. I have several Mullins women in Peterborough unaccounted for. Michael had 3 daughters, Marg E. married Oscar A. Brennan, one married a E. Ball and unsure, other might have married a Feely. My Dennis's daughters I haven't found in Ontario: Margaret, Mary Anne..... Elizabeth married a Williams-- lived in Roseneath 1911 and North York? 1927 -- and haven't found her yet. The BIG possibility is that the deceased Maurice and William Mullins (Mullane) owned land near their father in Asphodel (C10 L15 E W, C10 L13E) when they died... Member seeks any records of theirs; they died in their 30's and quite possibly were married and left offspring.

Charles Seymour Widely Mourned

Peterborough Examiner, 6 December 1946

The funeral of Charles James Seymour, division court clerk for the past 25 years in Peterborough, who died on Tuesday [3 December], was held on Thursday afternoon from his late residence, 133 Simcoe Street. The service was conducted by the Rev W. A. Filer of All Saints' Anglican Church, and was attended by members of the Peterborough Bar Association, county and court officials and a large number of friends.

Mr Seymour was born in Peterborough 66 years ago, the son of James Seymour and Mary Browne, and with the exception of several years in the United States, where he was employed in a bank, he resided here. Prior to his appointment as division court clerk he was American Consul. // Mr Seymour was a great lover of music, and was the last remaining member of the Peterborough String Quartette, which consisted of Dr Park, first violin; William McKeown, second violin; William Lech, viola, and Mr Seymour, cello. He was also for years a member of the Peterborough Curling and Lawn Bowling clubs, and always took a very active part in the games.

A quiet man, he was held in very high regard by all who knew him, and was the senior member of what has become known as the court house family.

Mr Seymour is survived by his wife, formerly Anna Bickersteth; one sister, Mrs Mabel McCarthy of Fort Erie, and two brothers, Frederick M. of this city and Jack of Titusville, Pa.

The remains were taken to Toronto for cremation.

The pallbearers were R. F. Downey, Stanley Adamson, Stanley Payne and G. Wilson Craw of Corinthian Lodge AF & AM, of which Mr Seymour was a member, and Archie Hood of Peterborough and H. Neilson of Toronto.

Genealogy and DNA

Readers will be interested in the important story appearing in media in early March 2007 explaining how DNA had helped to identify a World War I hero. Here is a summary of part of the story.

In 2003, construction workers in northern France uncovered the remains of two Canadian soldiers from World War I, killed in a trench assault soon after the famed victory at Vimy Ridge. Now, a three-year quest involving anthropological examinations, genealogical research and DNA testing has not only identified one of the soldiers but revealed an untold tale of battlefield heroism. Next month, Pte. Herbert Peterson, 22, will be laid to rest in a military funeral in the same French cemetery as his colleagues killed in battle 90 years ago. And his relatives, who always wondered about the fate of the young soldier, will be at his graveside, relieved that the family mystery has finally been solved.

BARNARDO HOME IS BEING RAZED BY CONTRACTORS

**Hazel Brae is Being Torn Down by George Martin and Herbert Doig
OPENED JUNE 1883
Home, After Serving for 39 Years, Was Closed in 1922**

Peterborough Examiner
28 December 1931

The pick-axe and crowbar of the wrecker are being applied in rapid, hammering strokes against the stout, weather-beaten, brick walls of Hazel Brae, and another of Peterborough's splendid old landmarks is being swiftly demolished.

The dust of over half a century sweeps up about the workmen as they attack the thick walls of the old structure, which still retains some touch of its past splendor. Beams fall, ceilings give way as the destroying tools dig in, and the dust clouds rise high like a pall about the grand old building.

Memories cling about the place. Memories of spirited horses, drawing gay equipages and fair ladies, prancing up through the driveway, arched with spreading elms and maples, to its door of hospitality.

Then, later, memories of ringing, girlish laughter and the soft tones of English voices. Memories of the hundreds, if not thousands, of orphan girls who found this house a haven of comfort during the more than thirty years that it served the Barnardo Home.

Intent only the job of wrecking, the workmen wait not for musing, but briskly tear out the heavy oak timbers, knock them free of the dust of time, and load them aboard a truck, which bears them away to be thrown up in a growing, ungainly pile. Perhaps some day these same timbers will be used in other homes, not so fine nor so large, again ring to the joys and tears of human life.

How old Hazel Brae is, no one in the city now seems to know for certainty. But its history goes right back to the city's babyhood. It was once the home of Alexander Smith, a prominent banker in the town.

In 1883 it was purchased by Hon George A. Cox and given to the Barnardo Home Society. This was the founding in Canada of this society, which embraces the Empire. // In June 1883 it was dedicated to the purpose of providing a home for girls, orphans and others without parental control. These girls, fresh-faced and eager, came to Canada as wards of the society, to start their new life in the Dominion. // Year after year hundreds of girls came to Hazel Brae, stayed awhile and received training, and then went out across Canada. Mothers and grandmothers now look back upon the old mansion as their first pleasant memory of this country.

In May 1922, after serving for 39 years as a home for Barnardo girls, the house was closed forever, a new residence for the girls being opened in Toronto.

Real estate men came and looked upon the great sweeping size of Hazel Brae with the idea of purchasing it. They admired the beautiful grove of trees that graced its grounds, the large garden and the bountiful orchard of apple and pear trees. Too big, they said. And through the years the place was given over to swift decay and then to ruin.

Little more than a month ago it was sold by the society to George Martin and Herbert Doig to be wrecked. Five hundred dollars, it is said, was the price. The Examiner was informed that the heating system alone in the building cost \$3,000.

The wreckers are making quick work of their job and in a few short weeks, Hazel Brae will be no more than a memory.

Remembering Peterborough

E. H. D. Hall

David Carley has sent the following observation on the Examiner story that appeared in the diary of E. H. D. Hall, 29 December 1931, as it was transcribed by Grace Reinhard who also made a comment in brackets.

A notice in yesterday's Peterboro' Examiner states that Hazel Brae or the Barnardo Home as it was known latterly, is being torn down. One sentence of the article reads, "How old Hazel Brae is, no one in the city now seems to know for certainty. Dad's question is "Who was asked?" With a little bit of trouble, he says, the date could be discovered. Why didn't the writer of the article consult the Registrar at the Court House?

Hazel Brae is a fine old residence, well built with thick walls and heavy oak timbers, was the home for many years of Dad's sister and her husband Alexander Smith and their fine family of children. Unfortunately, Mr. Smith died very young by a stroke, possibly brought on by worry. He had gone to Quebec to negotiate a deal in square-timber, his wife and child with him. Prices were low and things did not work out as he hoped. It was thought that the disappointment and worry brought on the stroke from which he never recovered. He had been a successful banker until he gave that up to deal in timber.

The architect of Hazel Brae was Mr. John E. Belcher. Hazel Brae was built by Alexander Smith and, as the Examiner reports, "Memories cling about the place. Memories of spirited horses, drawing gay equipage and fair ladies prancing up through the driveway arched with spreading elms and maples to its door of hospitality.

After Mr. Smith's death, Dad went to live with his sister and remained till he went west in 1882. The

children, who are grown to middle age, still tell about the pranks they played on their Uncle Harry. There was a chair with very wide, flat arms and this they would crow into on his approach, when he would pretend not to see them and sit on the lot. This chair was useful too when turned upside down for paying house.

The governess Miss Veal formed classes and during her stay with Mrs. Smith took pupils outside the family, thus beginning her career as a school mistress before going to Toronto where she carried on a very successful and excellent private school for girls.

In 1883 Hazel Brae was purchased by George A. Cox and given to the Barnardo Home Society. This was the founding in Canada of this Society which embraces the Empire. In June 1883 it was dedicated to the purpose of providing a home for girls, orphans and others without parental control. In May 1922 the house was closed forever, a new residence for the girls being opened in Toronto.

Real estate men came and looked upon the great sweeping size of Hazel Brae with the idea of purchasing it. They admired the beautiful grove of trees that graced its grounds, the large garden and the beautiful orchard of apple and pear trees. (Dad planted many of the apple trees.) Too big, they said, and through the years the place was given over to swift decay.

Little more than a month ago it was sold by the Society to George Martin and Herbert Doig, to be wrecked \$500, it is said, was the price. The Examiner was informed that the heating system alone cost \$3,000.

The following appeared in Elwood Jones, Historian at Work, Peterborough Examiner, 24 March 2007.

Hazelbrae: hub for Dr Barnardo's home children

Elwood Jones

From 1883 to 1922 Hazelbrae was the first Canadian home for over 10,000 girls who emigrated from England to Canada. Dr Thomas Barnardo led a successful child rescue agency which operated widely in England, and still does. Part of his vision was to send some of these children to Canada where their prospects for a useful future would be higher than if they remained in England, especially if they stayed in the squalid neighborhoods where they had been raised. If they came to Canada, they could be placed with foster parents, who would be monitored, and they might be used as domestics or hired farm labourers. Children were considered an asset in Victorian Canada, but families that had no children, or very few, welcomed the opportunity to have someone to help with farm chores either inside or out. Dr Barnardo's organization, which assisted 30,000 children to Canada, was the largest of the many agencies organizing the major child emigration of over 60,000 children to Canada.

Hazelbrae had a distinguished history even before the Barnardos. Edward Caddy, a public lands surveyor and artist, sketched the house at the top of Conger's Hill in 1839. The property, roughly bounded by Parkhill Road, Chemong Road, Barnardo Avenue and the river, was owned by John Hall and Moore Lee, the owners of Peterborough's government mill. The property passed to John R. Benson, the town's first merchant, in a public auction in 1837 and remained in his family until 1872, when this part of the property was purchased by Alexander Smith.

Sheriff Conger appears to have built the first grand home on this site. Conger was Peterborough's first sheriff, 1841-56, and was a sometime MPP and mayor. He died of tuberculosis in 1864, at the age of 60. He offered the house for sale in 1861, and the advertisement was still running in July 1863. His home, "Terrace Hill Cottage", was occupied by the Hon Sidney Smith, then Postmaster General of Canada, who had a law office on the northwest corner of Hunter and Water streets. "The House is large, convenient and in excellent state of repair. The grounds attached - an entire block of two acres - are beautifully laid out, forming one of the most agreeable residences in Upper Canada."

Alexander Smith, a banker, built Hazelbrae on the top of the hill before 1872. The property passed to Robert Nicholls, the banker and merchant, and was in his estate when he died in November 1883. His widow, Charlotte Nicholls, sold the property to T.G. Hazlett, Samuel Dickson's son-in-law in June 1884, and it was in turn sold to George A. Cox in 1888. Title to the property passed to the Barnardo Homes only in 1918, near the end of its remarkable connection to Peterborough.

George A. Cox was impressed with the reputation of the Barnardo Homes for assisting orphans, and neglected and destitute children. When in 1883 he heard that the Rev F. Fielder had brought the first contingent of 70 boys to Toronto, Cox went to Toronto and offered to provide a suitable Peterborough home for the enterprise. Fielder came to Peterborough, and quickly accepted Cox's offer of a house and land for Barnardo's orphan and destitute girls. Cox worked with Charlotte Nicholls and T. G. Hazlett to enlarge and prepare Hazelbrae. Fielder's preferred choice had been Moira Hall, which Charlotte Nicholls was converting to Peterborough's first general hospital.

The first group of children destined for Hazelbrae arrived 22 July 1884. Their train stopped as it crossed the laneway from George Street to the front of Hazelbrae on the hill overlooking the Midland railway line that is now part of the Rotary trail. The children (which included some boys) had only a short walk to their new Canadian home. The preparations had been completed and the following day a grand lawn and garden party was held at Hazelbrae. Dr Barnardo came to town the following month, and Peterborough people packed into the Bradburn Opera House to hear Dr Barnardo talk about his work in the "rescue of human wrecks from the seething sea of London misery." "The work had begun with one homeless boy in 1865, and by 1883 the Barnardo Homes were helping 1300 children a year. There had been some criticisms, but he noted that the more general feeling in 1883 was that "there was room in this broad Dominion for every soul likely to become a good and industrious citizen."

The *Peterborough Examiner* described the building in 1884:

The building is thus laid out for use. On the left of the wide entrance hall is the private parlour of Mr and Mrs Duff, who in consideration of the social sacrifices their position entails, are entitled to the seclusion and comfort this well-furnished and comfortable room admits of. Facing the entrance is the dining-room for the staff, and to the left end of the staircase hall is the secretary's office, and to the right of the hall, is entered

by two doors, the capacious, well lighted play room, the former drawing room of the residence. The kitchen has been converted into a dining hall for the children. Opening off this is an annex, added by Mr Cox, fitted up as a lavatory, where the youngsters perform their toilets. In the second story are the sleeping rooms of the staff, and a portion is used for a dormitory. This, together with the third story, is fitted with neat little single cot beds, sufficient to sleep 150 children. Each cot is neatly made up, the covering being a grey blanket, with spotless pillows, etc. To a lad or girl, whose memories go back a few months to the time when softest couch was under a cart or archway, in a coal bin, or in the more sheltered but more repulsive squalor of a lodging house, these comfortable beds will be the incarnation of princely luxuriousness - a realization of something which, to their one-time wretchedness, seemed as unattainable as to the Scriptural Dives, is "Abraham's bosom." The staff of servants required is only two girls, a large share of the work being done by the orphans who are thus practically initiated into the mysteries of housekeeping. Hazelbrae is only a temporary home for the orphans. As soon as possible they are placed in situations, or adopted, and thus make room for fresh arrivals.

Dr Barnardo returned to Hazelbrae in July 1890. He had been concerned that at times the girls had been left without adult supervision in the house, or in the distant outhouses milking cows. Hazelbrae usually was home to about 25 to 30 girls and the staff.

The maintenance of Hazelbrae proved difficult. George A. Cox, the great benefactor, moved to Toronto shortly after Hazelbrae came to Peterborough. Moreover, he seems to have been upset with how the Annersleys, whom he considered friends, lost their job. The Roman Catholic church had gone to court because it felt many of the children who had had Roman Catholic parents were being raised as Methodists. Raising local funds was more difficult in this climate. The Barnardo Children had been warmly welcomed to Peterborough, and for the most part, and despite great difficulties and some complaints about how the children were treated, the history of Hazelbrae seems to have matched its expectations.

In England, Barnardo's is still very active in child welfare. And the Barnardo children left countless descendants, many in the Peterborough area. Hazelbrae, though, ceased to operate in 1922. The Canadian government was pressured to stop child emigration because labour unions complained that such emigration drove down the wages other workers could demand. As well, Canada was developing systems for looking after Canadian orphans and destitute children, and people such as Charlotte Whitton and other social workers thought priority should go to Canadian social welfare developments.

The buildings at Hazelbrae were dismantled over the years and in 1941 Dr Barnardo's Homes in London, England sold the entire property to Morley Shaver of Peterborough. O'Carroll Avenue was carved out and a subdivision was soon developed. A nearby street is named Barnardo Avenue, but otherwise there is little to remind us that Peterborough was once an important stop in the lives of more than 10,000 girls.

Afterthoughts

Murray Paterson told me years ago, and again recently, that Hazel Brae was dismantled to the foundations around 1931 or 1932. However, finding articles in the newspaper is like finding needles in a haystack: you need a magnet or equivalent. The front pages of newspapers in the 1930s usually started 15 or 20 stories on the front page. It has the advantage of getting your attention piqued very quickly. The disadvantages are without number. Murray Paterson wrote many memories of growing up on George Street north of Parkhill in the 1930s and 1940s and published his very solid and readable book of memories, *The Golden Days of Yesteryear*, in 1998. His memories of the Barnardo site are on pages 127-8. His brother watched the building being torn down while he was restricted to his bedroom at 748 George Street, and over the weeks Queen Alexandra School came into view. Murray remembers playing in the cement rooms of the basement in the late 1930s, and he learned to ski on the long, graceful laneway from the house down to George Street now marked by the green sign erected by Ivy Sucee and the Hazelbrae-Barnardo Memorial Group. On the Barnardo Street side, the hill was steep and unwooded, and perfect for tobogganing, at least in those days of little vehicular traffic. Over the years the ravines and gullies of his childhood have been filled in for parking lots and streets.

The newspaper account of the razing of the buildings struck me as very placid. How easily people of 1931 accepted the real estate judgement that some buildings were too large. Had the building survived until Trent University came in the 1960s, it would have been a sure-fire hit for the Peter Robinson campus. There were no regrets about the loss of such an important building.

What should we know about George Martin and Herbert Doig? The 1937 street directory lists George H. R. Martin living with his wife Amelia on the west side of Monaghan, one house south of Lansdowne. Twenty years later the Sears store would be built here as the start of Lansdowne Place. Martin was the proprietor of Peterborough Auto and Building Wreckers which sold used parts for all makes of cars and trucks, replaced auto glass in sedans, and sold used building materials. At the time, he was the only dealer in used auto parts. A dozen years earlier, George H. Martin was working for McDonald Lumber Company, George and Rink, living at 104 Aylmer.

In 1937, Herbert F. Doig and his wife Charlotte were market gardeners on the south side of Cameron Street, just east of Monaghan Road. The Martins and the Doigs were neighbors. In the 1925 street directory Herbert Doig is listed at the same location but is described as a general dealer. John Doig, living on High Street, is described as a junk dealer. In the classified section of the 1925 directory, the junk dealers were Herbert Doig, D. Florence and Sons (with their yard on Bethune south of Simcoe), A. Low (at 385 Bethune) and George Stevens (at 364 Mark Street, by the old railway yards). Doig must have been interested in the furniture and equipment, but in 1937 might have been more interested in what could be saved from the gardens for the Examiner description suggests the gardens were fabulous. Grace Reinhard notes that her father, E. H. D. Hall, helped plant some of the fruit trees.

Letter to Mrs Caleb Bateman

Lance Corporal Albert E. Roscoe

Albert Roscoe was a home child brought to Belleville in 1893 by the Rev Robert Wallace. He died in battle, 24 May 1915, and was buried near Festubert. His name is engraved on the Vimy Ridge Memorial which was restored for the 90th anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge. Thanks to Ivy Sucee, Ross Roxburgh, and the Horton family for sharing the following items.

Belgium, May 13, 1915

Mrs Caleb Bateman,
Stirling, Ont.

Dear Mrs Bateman,

I hope you will forgive me in not writing home before now, as I have been very busy in our drill just up before the great battle of Ypres. A few years ago, when I was home with the rest of your family, little did we think of what would happen between two great powers of the world. If Germany would fight like the British did the days that we were in the raging battle they would have been driven on their own soil, but they only checked us by using poisonous gases. We lost a great many men and also our company lost three officers. One of our officers, Major, died since of wounds. Major Sanderman and Lieut. Simpson severely wounded, Lieut. Mason killed in action, and meen after men fell around me, a great many killed and a very large number wounded, although there will be a good number of the boys come back again shortly as they only have slight wounds. Our brigade you know is the second.

The Germans thought we Canadians would run because we were not like English troops, but they found out to their sorrow we did run but the wrong way to their liking. Although they used gases to shift us we came back with such force that we mowed them down like a mowing machine mows down hay. I do not know how I come to be alive today, it is more than I can explain. I helped to carry our wounded soldiers out from the trenches into safety back about a mile on stretchers, then we would go back again under heavy shell fire which was fierce. My kit was blown clear off my back in which I lost my razor, comb, underwear, socks, towel and soap. Now I have not got any, and a good many other boys are like me, so we are letting our whiskers grow until we are issued with a razor. Well mother, I will not say much more about the battle for I can't help but shed tears when I think of my close comrades that have been killed on the field of battle, you can get a better account of it when you read the papers of us in the second brigade. This brigade contains the following battalions, 5th, 7th, 8th, and tenth battalions under command of General Currie of Vancouver, B. C.

Well, we were in the trenches 22 days, and the first nine days were terrible. After the battle we did not know just where to find our battalion, we were all mixed up with French and English soldiers, but when the roll call came what was left in our battalion we had got mustered together fairly well, so now we are all pretty well lined up again and all the contingent made up in strength once more.

We are about 20 miles back of the firing line resting a bit, and we can still hear the roar of the big guns, and in the evening all the boys join in singing hymns and speaking of the boys which are dead and wounded, although there were about a dozen taken prisoners but got away again. We got a number of German prisoners as well.

When we first started out in February we were put in trenches along with British regulars, and the coolness of these men made us settle down like themselves. Then we took over other trenches on our own.

Our casualties were not very heavy at Neuve Chapelle as we only kept the enemy busy at rapid fire so they dare not send troops to help them. At present as I write a big battle is raging on the right flank. The noise of the guns is deafening. The machine guns are a madly roar. My people in this country are very good to me. I get all sorts of parcels, cake and other things.

I passed through a very large city both in France and Belgium, and it was pitiful to see the ruins caused by the Germans. I saw a great many beautiful homes, churches and cathedrals totally destroyed, and the city of Ypres was more than human tongue can tell. Surely the German nation will be held responsible for all this. I tell you there is no mercy for any German that gets in our boys' hands even after the war.

Well mother, we are to move for the trenches again in a few days, and this may be my last letter but I trust not. So I trust you are all in the best of health as I am at present, and remember me to all my friends.

Wishing you all a happy and prosperous summer, I remain

A true Britisher, ALBERT E. ROSCOE

Albert Edward Roscoe's personnel file

Born Belfast, Ireland 24 December 1890 [1884?]
Regimental Number 13678
5th Canadian Infantry Battalion, from 9 October 1914
Enlisted, Valcartier, 24 September 1914
Next of kin was Mrs Caleb Bateman, Stirling, Ontario
Killed in action 24 May 1915; Buried 23 June 1915
Single; Sailed from Quebec on SS Lapland, 4 October 1914; Trade: Lumber Clerk; Religion: Church of England;
Age 24; Height 5 feet 5.5 inches; Vaccinated: 1909;
Complexion: dark; Eyes: dark brown; Hair: black
Formerly served in 49th Rifles for 4 years
Officer commanding: Major D. R. Sandeman
Had lived in the west about ten years; joined at Moose Jaw, Sask.

Child Emigration via SS Vancouver, 30 March - 9 April 1893

The List of Immigrant Children on Board, for the S.S. Vancouver contains the names of 128 children accompanying the Rev Robert Wright to the Distribution centre for the Marchmont Home at Belleville, Ontario. The list consists of names, year of birth, and the workhouse from which the child came. Note that here Albert E. Roscoe, entry 3, was born in 1884; the enlistment paper above said 1890.

1	Hewitt	John E	1886 Chorlton	64	Trimmer	Lewis	1882 Winchester
2	Hanwell	R E	1881 Chorlton	65	Bailey	Samuel	1883 Kensington
3	Roscoe	Albert E	1884 Chorlton	66	Burris	Edward	1883 Kensington
4	Sampson	Angus	1881 Chorlton	67	Edbrook	William	1882 Kensington
5	Moore	John James	1885 Chorlton	68	Edwards	William	1881 Kensington
6	Harding	Samuel	1881 Chorlton	69	Green	Joseph	1884 Kensington
7	Pendlebury	Henry	1881 Chorlton	70	Hemmings	Clifford	1883 Kensington
8	Pendlebury	John	1886 Chorlton	71	Knight	Charles	1881 Kensington
9	Read	Richard	1880 Chorlton	72	Smith	Ernest	1883 Kensington
10	Owen	John	1886 Chorlton	73	Williams	Arthur	1881 Kensington
11	Simpson	Thomas	1880 Chorlton	74	Yardsley	William	1882 Kensington
12	Sharpe	A. R.	1883 Chorlton	75	Campbell	Thomas	1882 Kensington
13	Franklin	W. H.	1886 Chorlton	76	Stocker	Robert	1881 Chelsea
14	Gregory	Robert	1881 Chorlton	77	Pocock	John P.	1882 Chelsea
15	Hoyle	John	1881 Chorlton	78	Martin	Charles	1882 Chelsea
16	Kilpatrick	William	1882 Chorlton	79	Ointment	George	1883 Chelsea
17	Durie	William R	1878 Leeds	80	Ayres	Blanchard	1881 Wandsworth
18	Durie	Harry	1882 Leeds	81	Cox	Alfred	1881 Wandsworth
19	Durie	Herbert	1885 Leeds	82	Cox	Henry	1879 Wandsworth
20	Durie	George	1889 Leeds	83	Christmas	William	1882 Wandsworth
21	Simpson	George	1887 Leeds	84	Davis	Samuel	1885 Wandsworth
22	Spence	Walter	1881 Leeds	85	Jackson	Christopher	1883 Wandsworth
23	Cawood	Edward	1884 Leeds	86	Jackson	Henry	1884 Wandsworth
24	Rogers	William H	1884 Leeds	87	Jackson	Stanley	1886 Wandsworth
25	Wood	Aaron	1883 Hunslet	88	Roberts	William	1886 Lewisham
26	Binks	Mark	1880 Hunslet	89	Thomas	William	1884 Lewisham
27	Binks	Harry	1883 Hunslet	90	Sibill	Edgar	1883 Lewisham
28	Carter	David	1881 Hunslet	91	Sibill	William	1886 Lewisham
29	Randall	Sydney	1882 Hunslet	92	Potter	Ernest	1882 Lewisham
30	Cohen	George	1884 Stoke	93	Robus	Sydney	1889 Lewisham
31	Bolderstone	Peter	1883 Stoke	94	Slocombe	William	1880 Lewisham
32	Bolderstone	Joseph	1884 Stoke	95	Stratton	Frederick	1881 Lewisham
33	Rothwell	John	1881 Stoke	96	Tyler	William	1879 Lewisham
34	Adams	Herbert G.	1881 West Derby	97	Randall	Charles	1883 Lewisham
35	Bryson	William	1883 West Derby	98	Randall	William	1881 Lewisham
36	Best	Samuel	1882 West Derby	99	Randall	Joseph	1885 Lewisham
37	Campbell	John	1884 West Derby	100	Steele	Christopher	1881 Edmonton
38	Gattenby	William	1883 West Derby	101	Steele	Arthur	1883 Edmonton
39	Hull	Harry	1884 West Derby	102	Stamp	William	1880 Edmonton
40	Naylor	Ralph	1883 West Derby	103	Stamp	Henry	1882 Edmonton
41	Potts	George	1882 West Derby	104	Hedge	William	1885 Edmonton
42	Pritchard	James	1884 West Derby	105	Julian	Walter	1882 Edmonton
43	Williams	Richard	1884 West Derby	106	Julian	James	1884 Edmonton
44	White	James	1884 West Derby	107	Julian	Thomas	1886 Edmonton
45	Webb	Alex	1883 West Derby	108	Stacey	Archie	1881 Edmonton
46	Miles	Frederick	1880 Bath	109	Pratt	Alfred	1882 St Pancras
47	Clarke	Thomas	1882 Bath	110	Inglis	George	1881 St Pancras
48	Chase	George	1880 Battea	111	Hardwicke	Charles	1881 St Pancras
49	Jeram	Albert	1881 Battea	112	Hardwicke	William	1883 St Pancras
50	Kirton	Thomas	1880 Battea	113	Adams	William	1882 St Pancras
51	Kirton	William	1881 Battea	114	Geisler	Harry	1882 St Pancras
52	Maybee	William	1881 Battea	115	Noakes	Fred Geo	1881 Croydon
53	Maybee	Henry	1878 Battea	116	Cawood	Eliza	1882 Leeds
54	Hewitt	Edward	1884 Battea	117	Simpson	Nellie	1884 Leeds
55	Unwin	Thomas	1881 Battea	118	Simpson	Jessie	1886 Leeds
56	Unwin	Alfred	1884 Battea	119	Martyr	Florence	1879 Lewisham
57	Booth	William	1882 Battea	120	Martyr	Emily	1883 Lewisham
58	Horn	Henry	1879 Battea	121	Roberts	Lavinia	1883 Lewisham
59	Hancock	Richard	1880 Battea	122	Potter	Florence	1884 Lewisham
60	Hunt	Daniel	1880 Alverstoke	123	Statton	Charlotte	1883 Lewisham
61	Langridge	Harry	1880 Alverstoke	124	Randall	Sarah	1881 Lewisham
62	Mintram	Andrew	1881 Winchester	125	Ayres	Lucy	1884 Wandsworth
63	Teltham	Henry	1880 Winchester	126	Davies	Kate	1883 Wandsworth
				127	Brinfield	Fanny	1883 Wandsworth

128 Noakes Lily E. 1882 Croydon

Then and Now: Ackerman Building A Century Apart

B. F. Ackerman and Son built a very prosperous business in leather goods serving agriculture in both Ontario and in the East. Pictures taken from a similar vantage point allow us to comment on changing styles. The advertising was painted on the building in 1901; now we are more likely to use an artistic sign. Young trees planted near the building are long gone; now the tree is across the road. The power poles have changed and even the street lighting has changed.

The top picture has a row of billboards that might reveal the precise date of the picture. Thanks to Steve Guthrie for the suggestion that we should run this feature, and also for supplying these pictures.



TRENT VALLEY ARCHIVES OPEN HOUSE, 4 APRIL 2007

Trent Valley Archives celebrated its annual Open House, always held the first Wednesday in April to coincide with the province-wide Archival Awareness Week. The idea of the week is to promote the importance of communities valuing their archives as the places that protect documents, newspapers, land records, minutes, correspondence, catalogues, reference books, directories and censuses, diaries, photographs, films, music for future generations. Our motto is "Without Archives there is no history." A community operates at many levels, and we need to document all parts of our society. We should reasonably expect our public organizations to keep track of the decision-making processes for the development of public policy. However, community organizations of all kinds keep track of their activities and the people most closely involved. At some point these should be secured in archives. Businesses should keep track of their historical records, and very large businesses could reasonably have their own archives. Trent Valley Archives is willing to help people and organizations to develop their own archival systems. We are also willing to accept donations of records that are representative of what is going on in a sector of society.

Our advertising for the open house was very impressive. Bruce Fitzpatrick talked about the Trent Valley Archives that morning on CRUZ radio where he was Mike Melnyk's guest weatherman. The annual Peterborough Today magazine which comes as an insert with the *Peterborough Examiner* was published the preceding Thursday and carried an invitation to the Open House. We sent printed invitations to about 100 people; our card featured a black and white version of Jack Hamer's excellent 1940 watercolour of Peterborough's waterfront looking toward Quaker Oats. We also had excellent newspaper coverage. We worked closely with the Ontario Trillium Foundation and had excellent press releases to submit. We feel that Trent Valley Archives has enjoyed an excellent public profile over the past few months because of our many activities, our usefulness in providing historical information to the local media, and more recently our new logo has accompanied Elwood Jones' weekly Saturday column in the *Peterborough Examiner*. Our special St Patrick's day version of the Scandals and Scoundrels walk was an immense success; Bruce Fitzpatrick and Diane Robnik found ways to keep the 50 participants cheerful and warm on one of the worst weather days of the winter.

At this year's open house we celebrated two major events in one. First, the land records that were orphaned from our collections because of the Ides of July flood in 2004 have been returned and integrated into their proper locations. Researchers can now use the instruments (such as letters, deeds, bills of sale, wills) related to their family's property. The flood had only lightly touched about 45,000 of our million documents, but because the air was so humid in Peterborough because of the heavy rains we piggy-backed some of our documents on to the Roy Studio pictures sent to Rosco in Montreal. About four-fifths of the documents were from our Peterborough

County Land Records, and we eventually arranged the return of the records with the much-appreciated assistance of the Ontario Trillium Foundation, and the City of Peterborough.

The work of getting the land records integrated was not an easy task. The records are accessible through the land abstract registers which were created in the Land Registry Office as the land transactions were made. Each document carries a unique number and they are stored in numerical order within the several townships. Alice Mackenzie is creating a finding aid to the abstract registers which we will expand in phase two to include the names of individuals tied to the abstracts. In phase 3 we want to do an item-level finding aid for those townships for which we do not have abstract registers (Cavan and Millbrook, Anstruther) and for Ashburnham and Peterborough areas that we have. The land registers for the City of Peterborough are not held by us, but we have the records for many places that later were annexed by the city. Don Willcock is our land records archival specialist and to him we entrusted the work of refiling the land records. This is an ongoing job and we are delighted that he will continue with this project through the several phases. We will try and get financial support for this work, and we would welcome any support. Gina Martin is our land records search specialist and she ran a workshop on how genealogists and local historians can effectively utilize land records.



John Marsh presided at our very successful Open House, 4 April 2007. He observed that "Noah only had to get a couple of animals from each species; we had thousands of documents to save." Jeff Leal was not able to be present but Chris... brought a positive message of support. Ken

Armstrong, the widely and well-respected member of the regional grant review board for the Ontario Trillium Foundation, brought greetings, useful advice and officially presented the Trillium Award to John Marsh. Ken Armstrong commented that OTF was celebrating its 25th anniversary. Elwood Jones commented on the process that had taken us from the flood of 2004. He noted that "it takes a village to raise an archives." We had the support of local schools and Trinity United Church, countless volunteers in the immediate aftermath of the flood, the generous \$8,000 grant from the Hudson's Bay Company Foundation that helped us meet immediate out-of-pocket expenses, the helpful opinion of conservation experts from the Canadian Conservation Institute and Archives Association of Ontario, officials for the City of Peterborough, Rosco, Diane Robnik, our regular volunteers, and Ontario Trillium Foundation.

On this occasion, Ruth Lillico, on behalf of the local IODE, presented the original charter of the Major Bennett Branch of the IODE, to cap the significant collection of IODE papers described in the February *Heritage Gazette*. The archivist, Elwood Jones, commented that the collection is wide-ranging and will be helpful for people wanting to know about the roles women played in

Peterborough community life.



Ruth Lillico presents the IODE charter for including with the IODE fonds at the Trent Valley Archives.

Even though it was a rainy day, we hosted a steady stream of visitors all day. We extend a special thanks to the volunteers who did the spring cleaning, to those who supplied the refreshments. We

had over 100 guests. We also received some new members, and new donations of archival materials as a result of the Open House and its promotion, and quite a few people bought our new publications and purchased tickets for the upcoming Scoundrel and Scandals walks.

The Trent Valley Archives has published three trade books in local history in the past year, and has run an active fundraising program. Locally, it is becoming well-known for its entertaining and well-run historical walks. Its in-house magazine has been improving and has just celebrated its tenth anniversary of publication. See the webpage www.trentvalleyarchives.com for a guide to past issues; the magazine is a benefit of membership. Memberships are \$53 (GST included.) The open house was a decided success.

Elwood Jones and Diane Robnik

TVA BUILDING EXPANSION PROJECT

The Trent Valley Archives is now three shelves short of capacity for its shelving, and our empty shelves can accommodate around 150 cubic feet of records. So, it has become time to consider expansion. The board consensus is that we should seek to expand at our current location. People now know how to find us, and the lot is sufficient to allow us to double or triple our current size if the septic tank can be removed to the front lawn. We feel that it is less expensive than moving, and the costs are more predictable. Moreover, we think we will find better funding arrangements. Our search for a new home made us realize that we had a sentimental attachment to Carnegie and Woodland.

A 3,000 square foot addition with a basement would meet our needs for about ten years; this would more than double our current space, about 2,000 square feet on each level. This assumes there would be no dramatic changes in our mandate. The L-shaped addition would tie into the current building in a rectangular shape opening to the parking lot on the Woodland Drive side.

An archives building has to meet various needs. The accompanying diagram helpfully visualizes that visitors, staff and documents follow different routes and occupy different spaces. Visitors, for example, will come in the main entrance to a lobby. From the lobby it should be easy to move to staff offices, to the reading room and to the public spaces, such as the meeting rooms and exhibit area. The washroom should be accessible from the lobby, and we have thought that a kitchen or lunch room should also be accessible to visitors. This would allow us to have meetings when the archives is not otherwise open and the area open to visitors would be self-contained. This would also maintain the necessary security for staff and collections areas.

The works areas and collections areas would take the incoming records through the systematic stages. They would arrive at the loading dock and be appraised. The appraisal area would be connected to the preservation or conservation areas, and also to any decontamination that might be thought necessary. Documents then proceed to accessioning, to processing, to reproduction or copy technology pertinent to the media. Then we need records storage area. Of course the records storage area should be readily accessible from the reading room and the adjacent reference library and resources and to the research rooms and equipment.

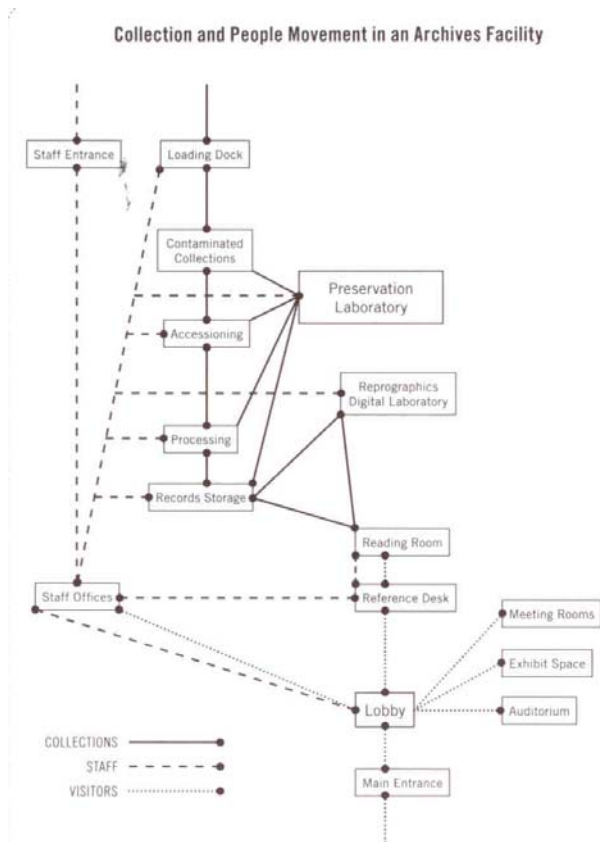
Working from this schematic, it seems most sensible to use the existing building for the staff and visitors, and to treat the new construction as primarily for the documents. It also seems sensible to keep the plumbing in the areas closest to Carnegie Avenue; the septic tank would be on that lawn.

The conceptual model that looks best to me would put the front door facing east to the current parking area, and with Woodland Drive the main point of vehicle entry. The entrance would go along a wide hallway with a multipurpose meeting room to the right. To the left would be a kitchen, washroom and lunchroom, and visitors would enter the reading room at the same door currently used. The documents would enter from a loading room off the driveway from Carnegie Avenue and be processed there and accessible to the full basement which would house the major archival storage. The Moloney wing would be made into processing room, offices, library and photocopying and scanning. Conservation room, processing, library and archival storage would be in the basement, as would the computer and maintenance rooms.

This plan totals about 6000 square feet on each level (compared to about 2,000 square feet now), and would handle about 10,000 cu ft of records (compared to the current 3,000 cubic feet).

The Society of American Archivists has published a new book, *Planning New and Remodeled Archival Facilities* and written by Thomas P. Willsted. (Chicago, SAA, 2007, Pages viii, 194; paper, US\$50). The book covers all the details to consider and provides useful summaries of current archival standards for humidity and temperature control, security, quality of

construction, and shelving options. It also provides useful information on suppliers.



This diagram provides an outline of the movement of staff, archival collections, and members of the public within an archival structure. Not every archives will include each function. Such a diagram can be very helpful in communicating optimum archival space layouts to architects planning an archival structure.

Also of interest was a list of archival facilities which have acquired new or remodeled archival facilities since 1990. Most projects exceed 20,000 square feet, but small projects include the Dirksen Congressional Center in Pekin, Illinois was 5,431 square feet; cost \$1.6 millions. The Historical Construction Equipment Association in Bowling Green, Ohio, was 2,200 square feet at \$200,000. The Joint Archives of Holland, Michigan renovated 3,500 square feet. The New Hampshire State Archives in Concord NH added 10,000 square feet for \$1.3 millions. Some archives about the size projected were part of larger projects. The list does not include the county archives building in Memphis, Tennessee which is in a renovated court house and was palatial by standards I have seen in Canada. Nor does the book include Canadian examples. Useful models to consider would be the City of Toronto Archives which was built near Casa Loma to serve as the Metro Toronto Archives. Also the archives in Grey County, Bruce County and Elgin County would be helpful models. I have assumed that the experience of Simcoe County would be the model for a county archives, and it was modeled on industrial rather than institutional archives.

We know how expensive institutional architecture can be. The Peterborough Centennial Museum and Archives is planning a major expansion at its Armour Hill site. This building is

projected to cost \$13 million for a 30,000 square foot expansion, from its current 10,000 square feet. There was already a feasibility study, and now the city has budgeted nearly \$400,000 for design work by two architectural firms, Lundholm and Lett. D. M. Wills will be the consulting engineer and Basterfield and Associates are designing the landscape. [See, for example, *Examiner*, 3 February 2007.]

Even modest projects, such as ours, present difficulties as well as important opportunities. For example, a larger facility will need more utilities and additional staff and volunteers. We know for certain that we must pay the capital costs without running up a capital debt. However, there is reason to believe that with a larger facility we will attract more members, and generate more revenue. We believe that some of our members and good friends in the community will rise to the challenge. We also believe that the Ontario Trillium Foundation and other organizations will make grants for remodeled archival facilities, even though they would not support the purchase of new buildings. We are also continuing to look for fruitful partnerships. With a state of the art archives we should, for example, be able to lease space and services to regional businesses and governments.

With these things in mind, the Board of Directors of the Trent Valley Archives has established a special fund-raising initiative called the TVA Expansion Fund. We look to our members and friends to give us advice and support. We are assuming that we need to raise \$500,000 over a two-year time frame, and have set that as our target. As you can see that will be a bargain. Our ambitions are modest and we will continue to use the existing building with comparatively few alterations.

Elwood Jones, Trent Valley Archives, Archivist



FROM THE PRESIDENT: THE ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2006

The Annual General Meeting of TVA held in April 2007 was an opportunity to review our activities of the past year. They have been numerous and diverse and are highlighted in chronological order below.

Our Annual General Meeting in 2006 featured an illustrated talk by Dr. John Carter on Barns – Our Disappearing Heritage. This reminded us of our wonderful but threatened built heritage. So, from time to time through the year, TVA has supported the saving of historic buildings in the Peterborough area such as King Edward School and the old YMCA.

During the summer we again offered three historic tours of Little Lake Cemetery. They focused on Legendary Peterborough Athletes, Fires in Peterborough, and the ever popular Tragic Tales. We much appreciate the Little Lake Cemetery company for facilitating these tours. Also in the summer, we presented Ghost Walks through Eerie Ashburnham. At Halloween we offered more ghost walks through downtown. Together they added \$6650 to our coffers. We received recognition and publicity when the TV programme “Creepy Canada” featured our material on hauntings at the Liftlock. Now we are also providing historic information for the Rescue Mediums TV show.

The long awaited book “Up the Burleigh Road” by the Laverys, was published by TVA for the Burleigh Road Historical Society. It has been widely praised and both hard and soft copies sold out very quickly. Accordingly, a second printing of the soft cover version will be available soon.

In September many people in the community worked at, or attended the International Ploughing Match near Keene. TVA’s display was well received, historic information was gathered, and books and videos were sold. The financial support of the County for this and the production of a special agricultural issue of the Gazette are much appreciated. We are pleased to note that the profit from the Ploughing Match will go to help Lang Village in its endeavours.

In November, and again this Spring, our Scandals and Scoundrels historic pub tour drew big crowds who were ably entertained by the charismatic Bruce Fitzpatrick and Wally Macht. The eight tours raised nearly \$4000 for us, so will certainly be repeated.

Earlier this month, during Archives Awareness Week, we held a successful Open House, featuring a press conference to open the IODE fonds, and to publicize our receipt of a Trillium Grant. This has been used to save the Peterborough County Land Records affected by the “Great Flood” and to organize and house them properly. Workshops for the public on Conservation, Ancestry.com and Researching your Home were also offered.

Those involved with TVA continue to garner awards for their work. In 2006, Diane Robnik won the Peterborough Historical Society’s J. Hampden Burnham Award for the cemetery walks she researched and often led. In 2007, Gina Martin received the Peterborough Historical Society’s Dobbin Award for her work about those who died in the Quaker Oats fire of 1916.

Under the enthusiastic and efficient editorship of Elwood Jones, we have been able to publish ever more impressive issues of our quarterly magazine - *The Heritage Gazette of the Trent Valley*. There been several theme issues, such as the one on Rosemere Manor, Lakefield, featuring a major contribution by Kim Krenz, and our last issue on the construction industry in Peterborough. The next one will be on the history of entertainment in Peterborough.

Other significant new publications this year were Diane Robnik’s “Mills of Peterborough County” and the first of a “Peterborough Then” series of historical photo books entitled “Peterborough Interiors.” We are grateful to Louis Taylor for making this look so attractive.

At our Fairview Heritage Centre the archival holdings have expanded almost weekly. Of special note are the letters written by William Johnston to his son in 1875; the diaries from 1880-1925 of John Graham Weir, a farmer in Otonabee; the Bradburn and Helm Family papers from around 1912, Marlow Banks’ scrapbooks, and the recent political records of Peter Adams. To help researchers we have acquired new computers with flat screens, and our website has been improved, thanks especially to Chris Minicola. Now we can go after a new vacuum cleaner, for our new cleaning lady, and some gravel for the parking lot!

In the coming year we will continue meeting the ever growing needs of people from near and far doing family and local history research. We will offer more educational events and workshops. There will again be cemetery, pub and ghost tours. We are working on new publications, such as the second in the “Peterborough Then” series of historic photobooks. Fund raising will remain a priority. To this end, our trustee, Peter Lillico is helping us develop our trust fund. Susan Kyle is spearheading the organization of a major new social event, a Tartan Ball, to be held early in 2008. And I am organising our annual used book sale in May. Funding will be needed in particular for an expansion of our building to accommodate more historic records and serve the public better.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all those that made so much happen at TVA in 2006. These include the staff and Board, notably Diane, Don, Elwood and Gina, as well as a host of volunteers: Basia, Alice, Bruce, Anne, Carol, Andre, Keith, and Martha. Apologies to any I may have missed. Special thanks also go to our members and donors, especially Carl Doughty for his most generous assistance.

Finally, let me say, that apart from donors and the public, we always welcome new members, new Board members, volunteers, young people, and the media.

John Marsh

The advertisement on the next page appeared in the Progress Edition of the Peterborough Examiner, 29 March 2007. Thanks to Louis Taylor for the design and imagination.



TRENT VALLEY ARCHIVES

History begins here; without archives there is no history.

Everyone is invited to our Open House 4 April 2007, 1 to 4 pm.

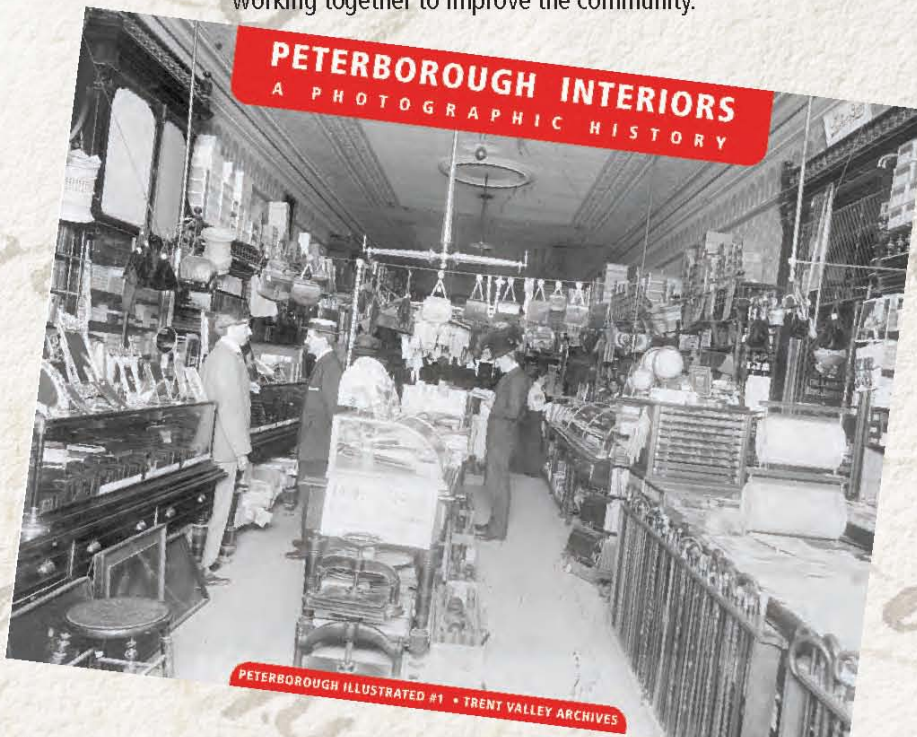
Since 1989 the Trent Valley Archives has been promoting genealogy, history and archives in Peterborough and region. Our open house will celebrate Archival Awareness Week in Ontario as well as the successful return of documents that were affected by the 2004 Ides of July flood. We are especially grateful to the Ontario Trillium Foundation and to the City of Peterborough for their crucial roles in completing the homecoming.

We have over 150 archival collections, and our Open House will celebrate two of them. The Peterborough County Land Records contains 200 linear feet of land documents or instruments made accessible by 206 abstract registers. We still use the original archival reference system to work our way through the land records.

Our other feature collection this year is the papers of the Imperial Order of the Daughters of the Empire [I.O.D.E.]. This large collection of scrapbooks, photos, minutes, membership lists and news coverage documents nearly a century of women working together to improve the community.



Please join our Scandals and Scoundrels Historic Pub Crawls: March 16, April 20, April 27. Tickets are \$20 and available at Titles Bookstore. See how our history comes alive with a tour of drinking establishments in downtown Peterborough with your host Bruce Fitzpatrick.



Our newest publication, *Peterborough Interiors*, is available at local bookstores and the Trent Valley Archives.

Home of the Heritage Gazette of the Trent Valley
Trent Valley Archives, 567 Carnegie Ave., Peterborough, ON K9L 1N1
(705) 745-4404 www.trentvalleyarchives.com

Ghost Walks in Eerie Ashburnham

The Trent Valley Archives invite you to their third season of terror-filled walks through East City. Friday's at 9:00 during June, July and August. \$10 per person. Meet at the park by Quaker Oats – Hunter & Driscoll Terrace. Don't let your parents come alone.



745-4404 trentvalleyarchives.com



TRENT VALLEY ARCHIVES

567 Carnegie Avenue, Peterborough ON K9L 1N1
705-745-4404 admin@trentvalleyarchives.com
www.trentvalleyarchives.com

CANADA ON DISPLAY: TRENT UNIVERSITY HISTORY DEPARTMENT CONFERENCE

The History Department at Trent honoured three retiring members of the department by hosting a conference. The conference was built around themes common to the careers of John Jennings, Elwood Jones, and Dale Standen. All three had taught Canadian history; Elwood also taught American history. All three had strong ties to public history: Elwood with archives, John with the Canadian Canoe Museum, and Dale with the Canadian Museum of civilization. Elwood and Dale with Doug McCalla taught

The presentations included:

- Peter Way (University of Windsor), Locating the lower orders: Recovering the lives of 18th and 19th century soldiers and canal workers.
- Josh MacFadyen (Guelph University), Exploring history through the life of a commodity - the case of flax.
- Nancy Christie (Research Associate, Frost Centre), "The Family the Study of Everyday Life in Canada"
- David Churchill, (U of Manitoba) Promiscuity, Sexual Liberation and the Politics of AIDS"
- Kerry Badgley (Library and Archives Canada), "The Politics and Ethics of Public History"
- Bill Waiser (U of Saskatchewan) Public History: Working with and through the Media
- Chris Dummit (University of London) Remembering Willie: Mackenzie King and Canadian Culture
- Kevin Spooner (Wilfrid Laurier U), "Peacekeeping as a Canadian Issue"
- Adam Chapnick (Canadian Forces College) "Reflections on writing Canadian/International History"
- Suzanne Morton (McGill University), "From social history to Biography: not any distance at all"
- Margaret Hobbs and Sue Wurtele (Trent University), "Violet MacNaughton and Interwar feminism"
- Peter Campbell (Queens University) "Two Solitudes? Rose Henderson and the Labour Revolt of 1919 in Quebec."

a course on "Everyday Life in the Past" that took their students into museums in which historians developed exhibits. All were committed to the importance of historical research in the interpretation and presentation of history.

The other twist to this conference was that all papers were given by former students of Trent University's History Department. The university had a great reputation for the teaching of history because of the importance of small group teaching, the innovative uses of Canadian history in first year courses, and in the early development of a university archives supporting Canadian history.

- Laura Peers, (Pitt Rivers Museum Research Centre, Oxford) "The Legacies of Colonialism: a Red River Court Case and its meaning"
- Penny Bryden (U of Victoria), "The Role of Historians in Public Policy Making"
- Jamie Allum (Winnipeg City Archives), "Jumping on the Green Bandwagon...Again: Reflections on the history of Canadian environmental politics"
- Elwood Jones also gave a walking tour of downtown Peterborough that took participants from St John's Church, the Court House, City Hall, down George Street and back by Hunter Street. Highlights included stops at Victoria Park and Confederation Square.

The chairs of the sessions also had historic links to the department: Jamie Benidickson (U of Ottawa, Faculty of Law, Friends of the Frost Centre); Shelagh Grant (Frost Centre Research Associate, Trent U); and Donica Belilse (PhD, Canadian Studies, Trent University).

The event was the inspiration of Joan Sangster, and its success owed much to the work of the History Department, notably Ivana Elbl and Kim Fielding. The current chair of History is Tim Stapleton.

Nearly without exception, the presentations were well-researched and there was much speculation about whether the papers would be published in a special volume. We certainly hope so.

Peterborough Historical Society Awards

Gina Martin has won the 2007 Dobbin Award presented by the Peterborough Historical Society for outstanding work in the promotion of historical awareness through writing. She is honoured for her great work in researching and writing the histories of those who died as a consequence of the Quaker Oats fire of 11 December 1916. Her information was published in the Heritage Gazette of the Trent Valley for November 2006, and then was reprinted in an offprint brochure which was presented to people who attended the ceremony at the Lions Club Centre on Burnham Street to mark the 90th anniversary of the fire, the worst in Peterborough's history.

Diane Robnik in 2006 was awarded the Burnham Award for her great efforts in developing and promoting walks about Peterborough history. The *Heritage Gazette of the Trent Valley* won the Dobbin award in 2005 for its ongoing historical writing.

Even this year, the excellent work of Mary and Doug Lavery with their book on the Burleigh Road and Diane Robnik's fine book on Peterborough county mills were worthy of the honour, too.

Special thanks go to Gordon Young, the driving force behind the two Quaker events for the 90th anniversary. In addition to Gina, the Peterborough Historical Society honoured the Peterborough Chamber of Commerce and Quaker Oats for their roles in supporting this initiative.

History in the Saturday Peterborough Examiner

As of 10 February 2007, the Peterborough Examiner has been carrying weekly articles by Elwood Jones of the Trent Valley Archives, and by Ed Smith, Andrew Elliott, Stephen Lancaster and Ed Smith of the Peterborough branch of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario. The ACO column, titled Walking Back, tends to highlight heritage buildings while Elwood Jones's column, Historian at Work, has mainly looked at people and issues. We present a list of articles that had appeared by early April. Since 1998, the Trent Valley Archives has kept a clipping file of articles, including these, relating to Peterborough history.

The Walking Back column featured columns on Commerce corner (Andrew Elliott); Traill College (Andrew Elliott); The essential bungalow: 507 Murray Street (Ed Smith); The classic Cape Cod homes: Middleton Drive (Stephen Lancaster); Lawson's Legacy [671 George](Ed Smith); Zellers as a downtown cornerstone (Andrew Elliott); Stewart and Simcoe row house is a slice of Cabbagetown (Ed Smith); Sadleir House Coach House: a landmark outbuilding (Ed Smith); Bank of Toronto building (Andrew Elliott); and the Wander Building (Andrew Elliott).

Elwood Jones' The Historian at Work column featured stories on the first Mayor's Committee on Poverty, 1875-6; Love treasures from Trent Valley Archives; Thomas C. Sorby, CPR architect had three distinguished careers; Photo [of McGibeny Family train car] contained a world of information; Muzio Clementi had Peterborough connections; Alexander Graham, Otonabee's farmer poet; Hazelbrae was the hub for Barnardo children; Rev Vincent Clementi is Peterborough's godfather of culture; Peterborough is the home of North America golf; and the Auburn Woollen Mill.

Interestingly, the Saturday Examiner has featured other articles relating to heritage and history. Don Barrie's column has appeared there for a few years, and often has columns relating to Peterborough's sporting history. During February and early March, the Saturday Examiner ran a four-part series marking the 40th anniversary of the Peterborough Symphony Orchestra. Its article on Walter Allward and the War Memorial, based on items at the PCMA Archives, appeared on a Saturday, too.

Publications News

The publications of Trent Valley Archives are attracting wide interest, and we are really proud of our fine authors, and the design team that has developed. It takes a lot of work to research and write books. We are grateful to Mary and Doug Lavery whose excellent book *Up the Burleigh Road.... Beyond the Boulders* has gone into a second printing. We took the opportunity to make some corrections, and to get rid of the gremlin which ate half the map of the Colonization Roads on page 4. We believe there are many people waiting for this reprint, and we also hope to extend our marketing to the Toronto area and the libraries across Canada.

Diane Robnik, Elwood Jones and John Marsh were the team behind the *Peterborough Interiors* book. However, the design of the book was done by Louis Taylor, and his usual professionalism has made the book dazzle. The quality of the photos is so good that we believe people will buy the book even if there is only one photo that directly interests them. You cannot get professional quality black and white 8 x 10 prints for \$15. The photos in the book were drawn entirely from the collections of the Trent Valley Archives, with some private donations from close friends such as Gina Martin and Chris Minicola. For a national survey we had to give an estimate of the number of photographs in our holdings, and we found that we have about 65,000 prints and negatives. We will seek further opportunities to promote our photo holdings. Diane is already earmarking photos for a companion book on Peterborough Exteriors. Let us know if you have favourite photos related to that theme.

Elwood Jones, Don Willcock and Keith Dinsdale are key members of the committee chaired by Maureen Crowley. They have been doing research on this project for years, and there is optimism that the book will emerge this fall or winter. The committee has been aiming to have the book come out to mark either the centennial of the first special purpose fire hall or the formation of a professional fire department, both events occurring in 1908.

Marlyne Fisher-Heasman has written a book on walking through Omeme, richly illustrated with photos from her private collection. The book is at the editing stage and we look forward to it appearing soon.

Work continues on the long-standing project to publish Howard Pammett's famous 1933 M.A. thesis on the Peter Robinson settlers and their influence on the growth of Peterborough. The plan is to publish the first eleven chapters which carry the story of the Irish emigration to 1847. The editor wants essays on the writing of Irish history and the writing of the history of Peterborough so that the thesis may be placed in context. It is reasonable, as well, to wonder what we have learned in the past 75 years.

The Trent Valley Archives is also committed to publishing a book that builds on the work of Martha Kidd on the

architectural heritage of Peterborough. It looks as if we will need several volumes for this project. The first will be titled *Peterborough: By George*, and will tell the history of places and people between Rye's Pavillion and Trent University. It is an exciting project.

If you would like to help on any of these projects, or if you have other suggestions please contact John, Diane, Elwood, or a board member.

Encapsulation is not a difficult procedure and is one of several topics that I teach in my conservation workshops and courses. Direct questions to www.theconservationclinic.com

THE CONSERVATION CORNER

BASIA BAKLINSKI

Is lamination a safe method of protecting old paper documents?

People frequently ask if lamination is safe for their paper-based collections or items such as letters, prints and maps.

Lamination became popular in the 1960s and 1970s as a way of providing an impenetrable and protective seal around paper. It was meant to keep out moisture, bugs, dirt and acids from air pollution. Documents were sandwiched between two pieces of plastic secured with heat and adhesives that penetrated the fibers of the paper.



Sadly, we are now discovering that many of the plastics and adhesives used were not inert and have in fact started to destroy the very documents that they were meant to protect.

The accompanying photo shows a section of a map from the 1800's that had been laminated in the 1980s. The dark smears are all that is left of the paper. The light areas are where a chemical reaction has taken place and the paper has completely dissolved leaving only words and boundary lines suspended between clear plastic.

Lamination is not reversible... meaning it cannot be undone. Clearly lamination is not the best option for your family's historic documents.

However, there are other options. The best solution is a process called *encapsulation*. This is a reversible method of securing the document between two pieces of inert polyester film without the application of heat or invasive adhesives. Inert plastic envelopes have also become readily available.



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